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A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF CASES CONSIDERED IN CONFERENCE IN  
1935 AT THE NEW ENGLAND HOME FOR LITTLE WANDERERS

A Thesis

submitted by

Mary Anna Johnson

(B.S., Simmons College, 1939)

in partial fulfilment of requirements for  
the degree of Master of Science in Social Service

1941

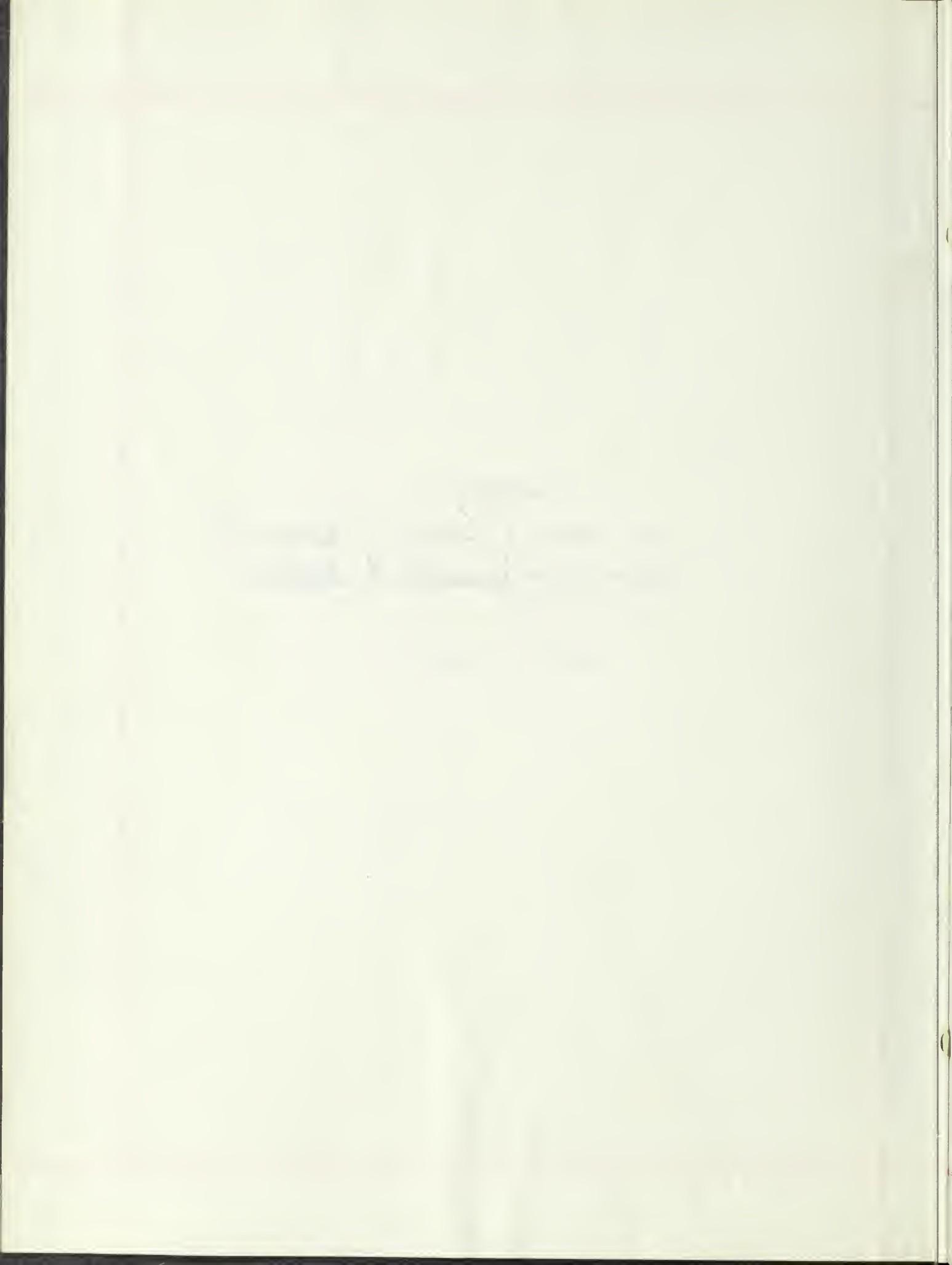
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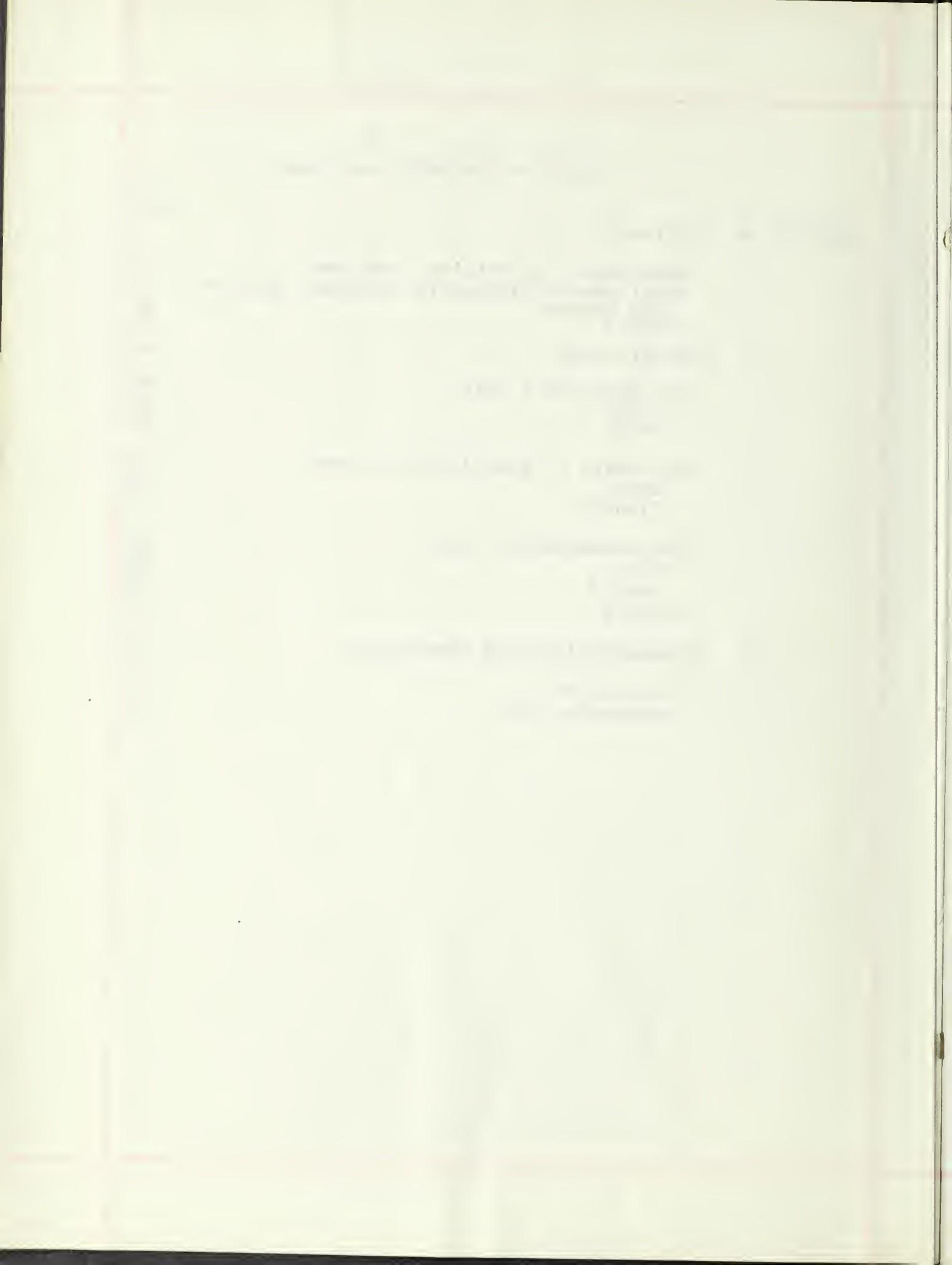
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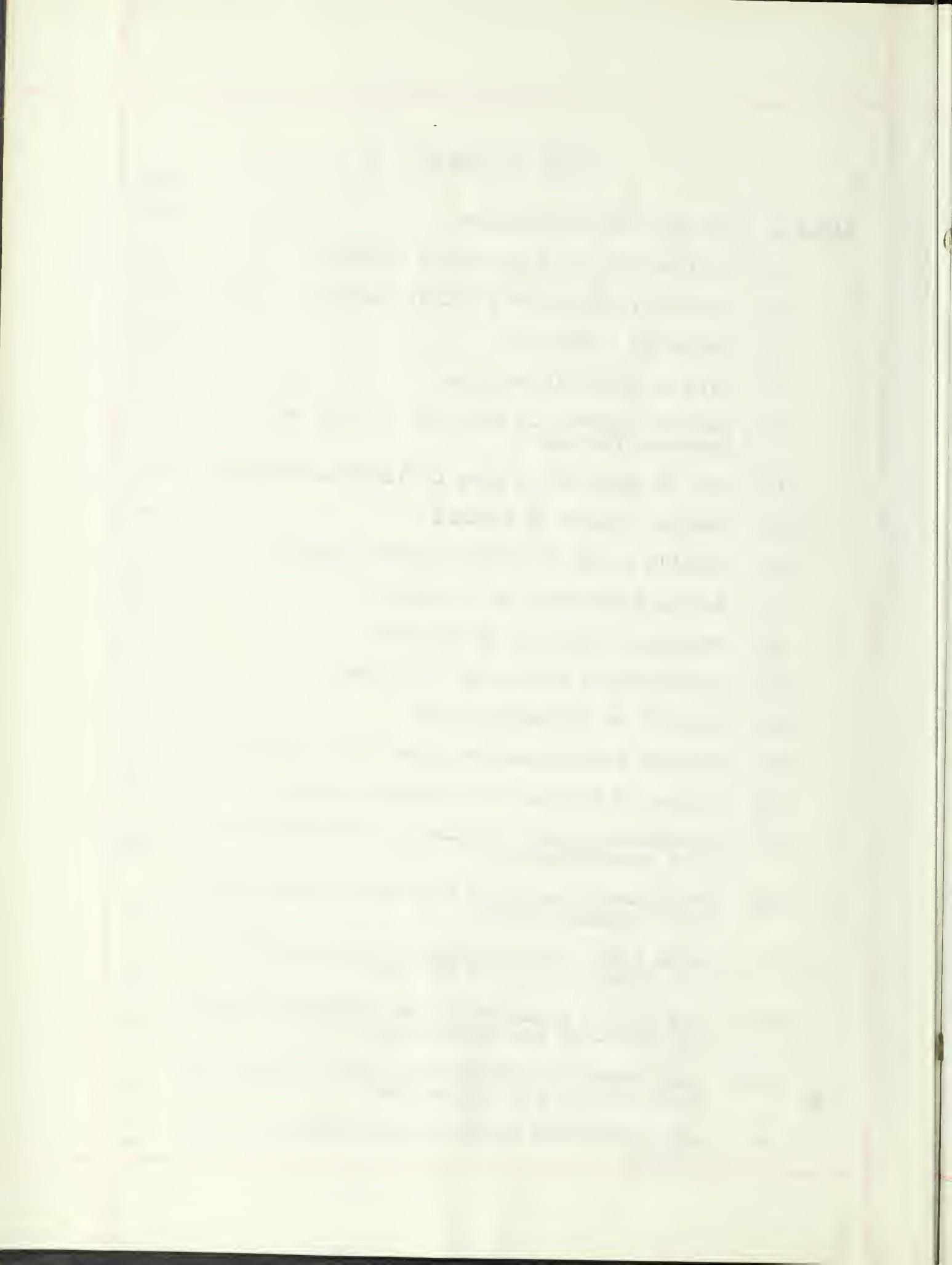
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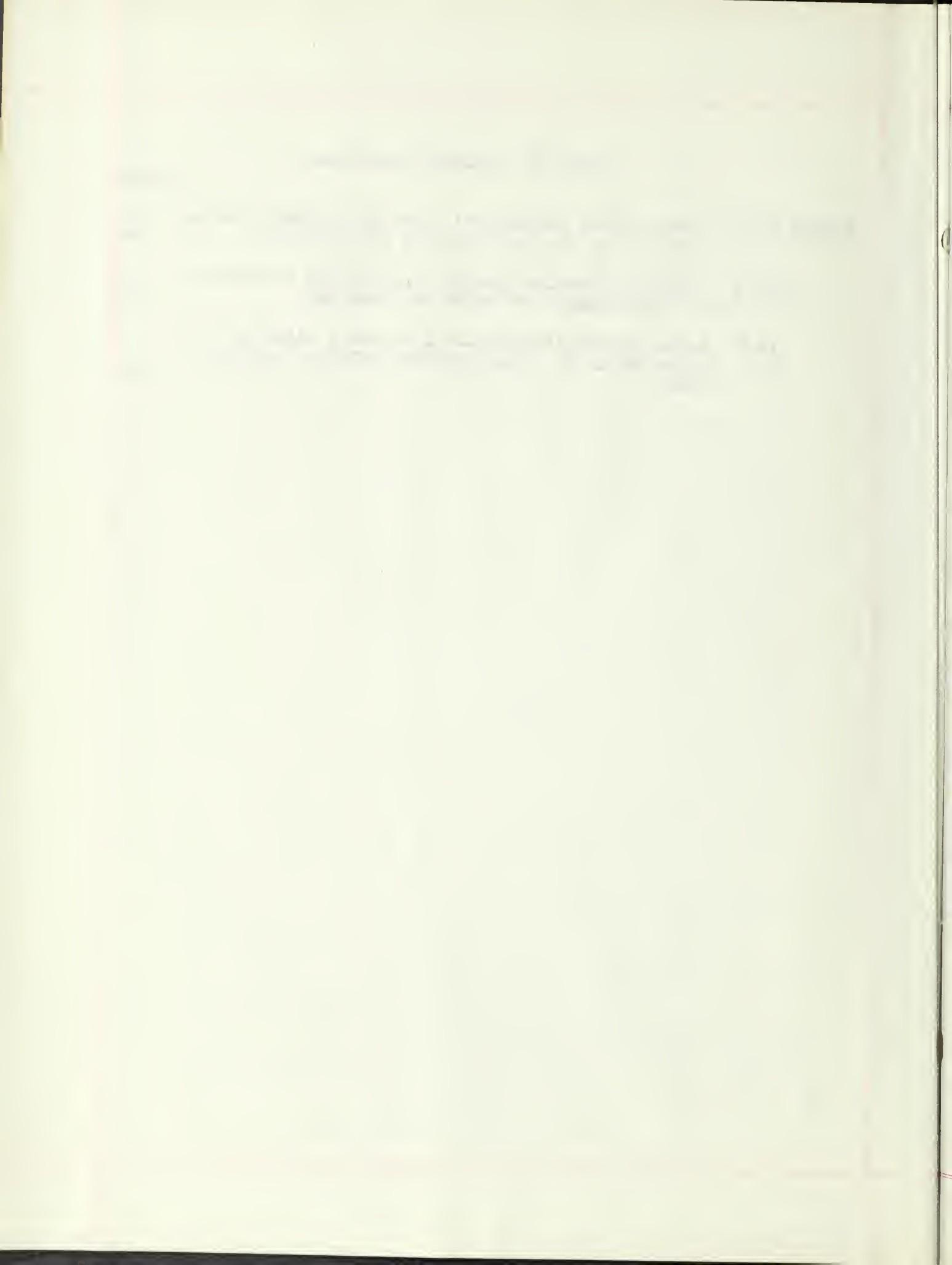
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## CHAPTER I

### PURPOSE, SCOPE, AND METHOD OF STUDY

The New England Home for Little Wanderers is a study home for children presenting difficult problems as well as being a child placing agency. Because it provides a home where the child can be studied in his everyday contacts with other children and because its staff includes a doctor, a psychiatrist, a psychologist, and social workers, it is used as a diagnostic clinic for social agencies throughout New England. However, before a child is placed or before a diagnostic summary is sent to the referring agency giving the reports of the various specialists on the child, his case is considered in Staff Conference so that a complete picture of the child may be gained and so that a careful discussion by the various experts may bring about recommendations and plans for the child's future.

The purpose of this study is to examine the cases considered in conference at the New England Home for Little wanderers in the year 1935 and to discover whether or not the recommendations for these children were carried out - if they were not carried out to discover why not; if they were carried out to find with what results and to determine, in so far as possible, if the contact of these children with the Home for Little Wanderers was of value to them. Also this paper will attempt to show the relationship between age, sex, illegitimacy, intelligence, and successful adjustment at home, at school, and



in the community of children five years after being considered in conference at the Home for Little Wanderers.

The year 1935 was selected for this particular study as it was felt that a five-year period of time would be sufficient to show the effects of a change in plan of treatment and yet not be too long a period of time to allow for too many other factors to come into the picture. This five-year period was the same amount of time as was used by the Gluecks in their follow-up study of 1000 juvenile delinquents, and it was felt by them at this time to be a legitimate time span for a study of this type as it "allowed a sufficient period for gauging the footprints on the sands of time."<sup>1</sup>

All the cases considered in conference in the year 1935, 77 in number, were selected from statistical files so that the study would be complete for one year. It is hoped by the agency that similar studies will be carried on in 1941, 1942, and so on, allowing a five-year period to elapse so that the results may be more significant and more conclusive.

A working schedule has been devised to record information from the case histories, conference recommendations, and later follow-up letters or visits.<sup>2</sup>

On material about conference recommendations, as on other definitions, the writer has been guided by the Glueck study.

<sup>1</sup> Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck, One Thousand Juvenile Delinquents (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1934), p.5.

<sup>2</sup> Schedule, follow-up letters, and definitions are included in the appendix.

the first time in the history of the world, the  
whole of the human race has been gathered  
together in one place, and that is the  
present meeting of the General Assembly.  
The world is now in a state of  
utter confusion, and there is no  
doubt that it will be still more  
confused in the future. The  
present meeting of the General  
Assembly is the first step towards  
the establishment of a  
universal government, which  
will be able to  
control the  
whole of the  
human race.  
The present meeting of the General  
Assembly is the first step towards  
the establishment of a  
universal government, which  
will be able to  
control the  
whole of the  
human race.

One Thousand Juvenile Delinquents.<sup>3</sup> As in the Glueck study the question of whether or not the recommendations were carried out may be answered by "Yes," "No," or "In Part." "Yes" is defined as meaning that the recommendations were initiated within three months of the date of the conference and carried out in full. "In Part" means that the recommendations were initiated within three months of the date of the conference but not carried out to any extent, that the recommendations were initiated later than three months after the date of the conference, or that the recommendations were not carried out in full. The answer "No" on the schedule implies that the recommendations had not been carried out during the five-year period which the study covers.

In considering the best method of evaluating the results of such a study the writer thought it would be helpful to go over the material in three well-known follow-up studies, namely, One Thousand Juvenile Delinquents by the Gluecks, The Rehabilitation of Children by Baylor and Monachesi, and Reconstructing Behavior in Youth, by Healy and others.

The Gluecks were able to use the standard measure of commitment by the court in their study which is impractical in a study such as this,<sup>4</sup> as very few children admitted to the New England Home for Little Wanderers in 1935 had court records.

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3 Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck, op. cit., p. 123.

4 Ibid., p. 152.



In the Baylor and Monachesi study considering children placed in foster homes, an attempt was made to discover whether the individual had behaved or misbehaved in the light of the agency's purpose in accepting the child for care. Adjustment was considered favorable if the child had not misbehaved and unfavorable if the child conducted himself in a manner which brought him in conflict with law, school, and community.<sup>5</sup>

The method which seems better suited for a paper such as this is the one used in Reconstructing Behavior in Youth, as it gives a more detailed definition of terms used. The agency contact is considered a success where the individual presenting behavior, personality, or habit problems has made a steady gain in his ability to master his difficulties and maintain his position as a member of the family and community. It is considered a failure when the delinquencies persist, the personality difficulties remain or increase, or the habits are largely unmodified so that they do not adjust satisfactorily to conditions in family life.<sup>6</sup>

Bearing these definitions in mind, the writer has defined a successful agency contact as one in which the individual has made a steady gain in his ability to adjust to home, school, and community as measured by his general sense of well-being, his ability to get along with others and be respected by them

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<sup>5</sup> Baylor and Monachesi, Eli, The Rehabilitation of Children (New York: Harper and Bros., 1939), p. 412.

<sup>6</sup> Healy and others, Reconstructing Behavior in Youth (New York and London: Alfred A. Knopf, 1929), pp. 232-3.

the first time I have seen it. It is a very  
handsome tree, and I hope to get some  
seed from it. The leaves are large and  
ovate, with serrated edges. The flowers  
are white and fragrant. The fruit is  
a small, round, yellowish-orange.  
The bark is smooth and greyish-brown.  
The trunk is straight and upright.  
The roots are well developed and spreading.  
The overall impression is one of great  
strength and beauty.

and his compliance with accepted social codes such as laws, morality mores, and regulations of institutions. It is to be borne in mind that children adjusting well in institutions for feeble-minded may be included in this group. For examples of these distinctions in more detail, several cases are discussed in Chapter V.

By a questionable success is meant little or no gain in the child's adjustment to home, school, and community, as determined by the above standards but no noticeable conflict with society, inability to get along with people, or a state of depression. Also under this heading are included cases which adjusted satisfactorily for two years and then developed a downward trend and those cases which went downward until helped by an agency other than the Home for Little Wanderers.

By agency failure is meant a downward swing in the ability to adjust or a profound depression, a marked conflict with society, and a marked inability to get along with people.

This evaluation is made by the writer after reading the various follow-up letters, taking into account the individual workers' estimates of the child's adjustment and improvement when stated, and keeping in mind all facts and examples of behavior written by each individual worker.

The material about the parents, background, and referring agency, in fact all the material for the schedule with the exception of that obtained in 1940, is taken from the individual case histories of the children.

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The follow-up material for those cases still under the supervision of the Little Wanderers' Home is taken directly from the case histories and, when necessary, conferences with the present worker for the child have been arranged.

The follow-up material for cases not under the supervision of the Home for Little Wanderers is gathered from letters written to the different agencies or, if this is not possible, from parents who referred the child and who have some contact with him at the present time. Those cases on which no information was obtained, however, are cleared through the social service index so that the additional information received from agencies in contact with the family at present might be used.

Whenever possible, if the information is incomplete, home visits are made to supplement the material.

#### Limitations of Material

In the first place this study covers so few cases that no conclusive results can be drawn from it. The best that can be said in completing a study of this sort is that in this year such was true. It might be possible that the same would be true in the next year. It would be of value to undertake another study of this sort.

Kimball Young is quoted in Scientific Social Surveys and Research as follows: "Records are open to errors of perception, memory, judgment, and unconscious bias with a special tendency to overemphasize unusual events."<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Pauline Young, Scientific Social Surveys and Research (New York, Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1959), pp. 226-254.



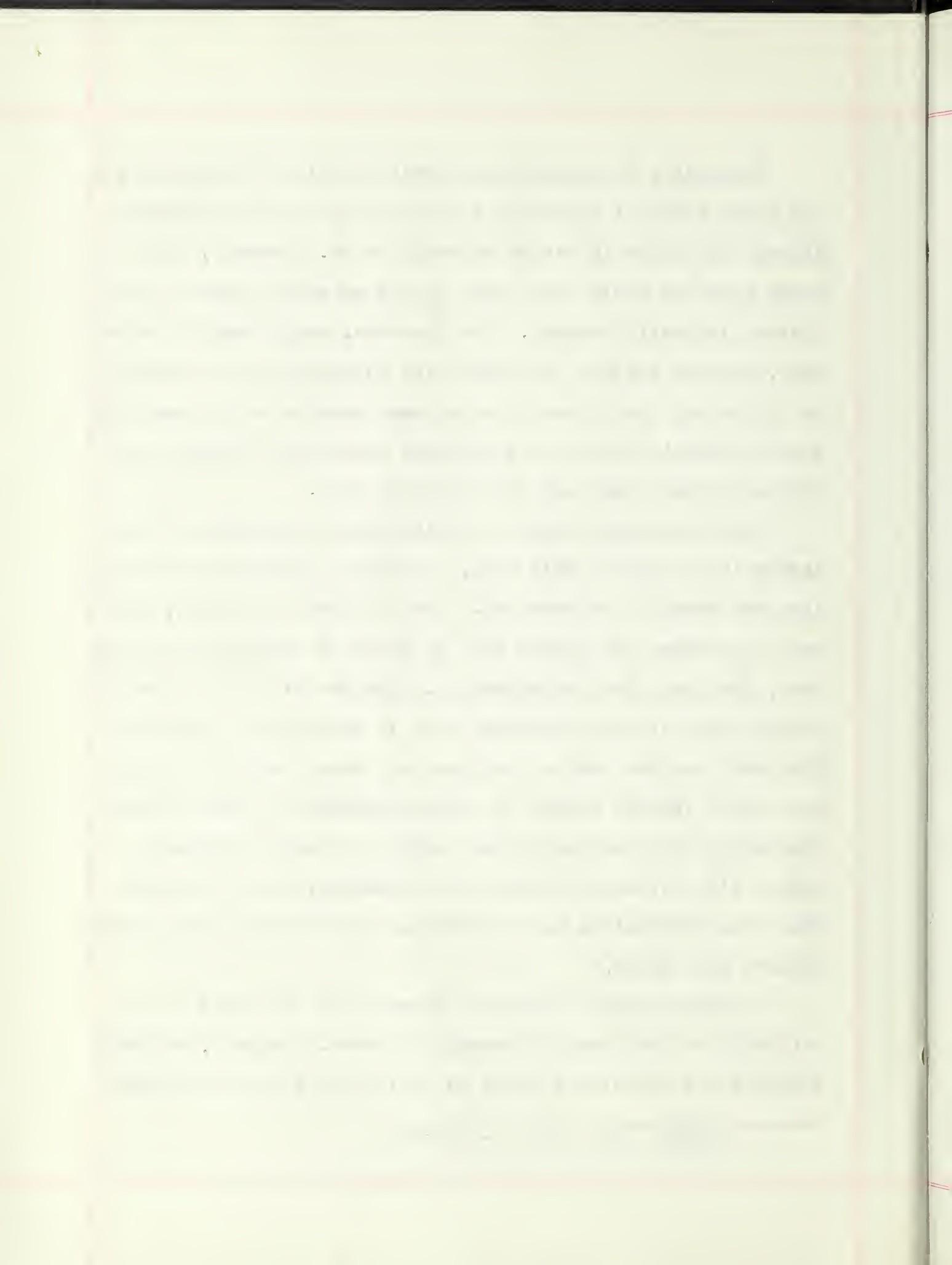
Frequently the subject says what he thinks the investigator wants and will probably be self-justificatory picturing himself not as he is but as he wants to be. However, this study seems to avoid this error as the material from the case history is mostly factual. For instance, such items as broken home, drunken parents, religion, and nationality are recorded in this study, but there is no attempt made to record such subjective material as child's attitude toward his parents, his attitude toward sex, and other similar data.

Letter writing is not as satisfactory as visits to the agency in a study of this kind, but there is the limitation of time and money to be overcome. Some letters, of course, will not be answered and others will be answered incompletely. However, the fact that the majority of letters will be written to social agencies who understand what is wanted in a study of this sort and who have an unbiased attitude toward the child will guard against biased or untrue responses. There is the limitation that the reports are sent in by many different people with different biases and prejudices, but it is felt that these prejudices and differences in standards will counterbalance each other.<sup>8</sup>

In dealing with subjective material of this kind it is difficult to keep down the margin of error. However, wherever possible the author has tried to limit this study to factual

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid., Ch. VII, pp. 138-173.



material. The report of the psychiatrist, the psychologist, and the doctor are accepted as the opinions of experts and permits the elimination of much subjective material. The term subject to the widest margin of subjectivity is the classification of good, fair, and poor adjustment. To lessen the subjective error of these classifications there has been a careful definition of terms made clear by examples and illustrations from case material.



## CHAPTER II

### BACKGROUND FOR STUDY

### THE NEW ENGLAND HOME FOR LITTLE WANDERERS

In this follow-up study of cases considered in conference in the New England Home for Little Wanderers in 1935 a certain amount of background material is needed. Unless something is known, for instance, about the philosophy of the Home, the type of people employed on the staff, the facilities available in the institution, and the general policies of admission, it is difficult to form any conception of the type of child who is likely to be brought into this agency, and all statistical material which follows is meaningless. Therefore a short explanatory chapter is presented here to acquaint the reader with the type of agency this is and the type of child likely to be admitted to this agency.

Founded in 1865, the New England Home for Little Wanderers or, as it was then called, the Baldwin Place Home for Little Wanderers, was originally for homeless children. However, the purpose of the Home, as stated in the charter, was made broad enough so that this organization could adapt itself to the outstanding needs of the times for the past half century.

The charter stated that the Home was incorporated for the purpose of rescuing destitute children from want and shame, providing them with food and clothing, giving them instruction for the mind and heart, placing them, with the consent of their parents or legal guardians, in Christian homes; also, at the discretion of the managers,

the first time I have seen it. It is a very  
handsome tree, and I hope to get some  
seed from it. The leaves are large and  
ovate, with serrated edges. The flowers  
are white and fragrant. The bark is  
smooth and greyish-white. The trunk  
is straight and strong. The roots are  
large and spreading. The tree is  
about 10 feet tall. The leaves are  
about 6 inches long and 4 inches wide.  
The flowers are about 1 inch in diameter.  
The bark is about 1/2 inch thick.  
The roots are about 1/2 inch in diameter.  
The tree is very hardy and can withstand  
extreme weather conditions. It is  
a good addition to any garden or landscape.  
I hope to see more of this tree in the  
future. It is a very interesting and  
beautiful tree.

for the purpose of affording relief to the destitute in connection with families of poor children and furnishing moral and religious culture to the ignorant and neglected; with all the powers and privileges, and subject to all the duties, liabilities and restrictions set forth in the General Laws which now are or may hereafter be in force relative to such corporations.<sup>9</sup>

Under the leadership of Dr. Knight, superintendent from around 1908 until 1922, the Home adopted modern methods of home finding and child placing, record keeping, medical care, and supervision, and began the acceptance of problem children for diagnostic study.

At the present time, in accordance with changing ideas and ideals of the times, the chief aim of the Home for Little Wanderers has shifted from the desire to help the child facing a difficult problem.

The Central Office of the New England Home for Little Wanderers is located on South Huntington Avenue, Boston. It is not designed as a long-time residence for children but as a service station for those children needing special medical and psychological study and care before new plans are made for their living. There are three branch offices; the Pittsfield, Massachusetts, Branch; the Waterville, Maine, Branch; and the Aroostook County, Maine, Branch. They refer their most difficult problems to the Central Office for study when the best of psychiatric and medical care are needed.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> "Answers to Questions," Little Wanderers' Advocate, June, 1938, p. 9.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid., pp. 9-12.

the first time I have seen a specimen of the genus. It is a small tree, 10-12 m. high, with a trunk 10-12 cm. in diameter. The leaves are opposite, elliptic-lanceolate, 15-20 cm. long, 5-7 cm. wide, acute at the apex, obtuse at the base, entire, glabrous, dark green above, pale green below. The flowers are numerous, white, 5-petaled, 10 mm. in diameter,生于葉腋，或生于葉之先端。花期在夏秋之交。

### The Administrative Setup

General administrative matters are in charge of the Superintendent. He is responsible for all managerial matters having to do with the operation of the institution, with the care of children, with the operation of branch offices, and with the operation of all office, secretarial, and clerical work.

The Social Service Department, containing nine full-time social workers, subdivides into (a) Division of Advice and Assistance, (b) Division of Foster Home Care, (c) Division of Home Finding. The Division of Advice and Assistance makes a thorough study of all applications for admission to care. The Foster Home Care Division undertakes the placement and supervision of all children in foster homes. All children placed out are assigned to visitors who become directly responsible for supervision of children on their particular lists. The Home Finding Department is responsible for the locating and thorough study of all prospective foster homes. These same types of activities are conducted in each branch office.

The Matron is responsible for the operation of the institution, the food, housekeeping, and direction of the house staff.

The Medical Director is a regular member of the staff of the organization and is supreme on medical matters. He visits the institution daily, attends conference, and is available for service in the hospital. He supervises the general health of the children in the institution and by arrangement examines



any child and directs treatment of that child. The Medical Staff consists of fourteen doctors, specialists in various fields available for consultation.

The Department of Child Study assumes special responsibility for psychological and psychiatric study of any children who come to the institution for study. There are seven members of this department, the superintendent, the psychiatrist, the psychologist, the doctor, two consultant psychiatrists, and the director of the experimental school.<sup>11</sup>

#### Policies of Admission

As a general rule children accepted for care are between two and 16 years of age, although there is no definite age limit. There are 50 beds in the institution. Usually there are under 50 children in the house so that there will be room for emergencies. Many of the children have been neglected or have come from broken homes, but children living in their own homes who present medical and behavior problems are also accepted for care.

The children are usually referred by parents, neighbors, school teachers, police officers, town officials, other childrens' societies, and social agencies. Branch offices bring only those children who have problems which can be solved better by the special facilities the institution offers.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> New England Home for Little Wanderers, "Letters of Instruction." Unpublished material, pp. 7-9.

<sup>12</sup> Little Wanderers' Advocate, op. cit., pp. 12-15.



The general policies of admission are as follows:

(1) The so-called short-time case is admitted, that is, when the family is afflicted with accidental, not chronic, dependency. This is only the case which with social service can be rehabilitated in a short time and thus make possible the return of the children either to their parents or close relatives.

(2) Under certain conditions the so-called long-time case is accepted for care, that is, children entirely dependent and of high mental capacity who are either to be placed for adoption or placed at board.

(3) Children presenting difficult behavior problems are taken for purposes of study and diagnosis from any part of New England.

(4) A limited number of delicate but curable children in need of special convalescent care will be received from other hospitals and institutions.

(5) The Home provides shelter for a child facing a real emergency. By providing such care it does not commit itself to continued care.

Cases accepted by the Home are accepted conditionally. If it appears later that in the judgment of the Home the case is not one for continued care, the Home reserves the right to discharge it with such recommendations as are deemed wise, with or without the approval of the referring agency. Investigations of referring agencies will be accepted but supplemented whenever necessary.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>13</sup> "Letters of Instruction," op. cit., p. 24.



### Life in the Institution

The house is located on five acres of ground, on which there are many trees, a small garden, swings, seesaws, slides, and the like, and a small hill which serves for coasting and skiing in the winter. Full opportunity for play is provided in the play-yard, the workshop for boys, the boys' and girls' den, and the chapel, which also serves as a general assembly hall for putting on plays. The experimental school provides group work and handwork. Special tutoring for physically handicapped children is provided by the City of Boston.

One of the first services given the child after admission is a thorough physical examination by the Medical Examiner. Any physical defects are noted and steps taken toward treatment. Also, every child is referred to the dentist on the staff who does all the necessary work on the children's teeth. If there are physical conditions raising special questions or difficulties, children are taken to the various clinics in and near Boston.

In most cases the child stays in the Home for at least six weeks so that a complete and careful study of his behavior may be made. This is so that his behavior may be observed after he has become thoroughly acquainted and a member of the group. Some few requiring certain types of medical or convalescent orthopedic or heart cases. Also, it is sometimes necessary to keep some children for a longer period of education and training.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Little Wanderers' Advocate, op. cit., pp. 12-15.



### The Staff Conference

Those children who have been referred for behavior difficulties or who present problems of such a nature as to warrant a discussion are considered at Staff Conference. The purpose of the conference is to provide an opportunity for the interchange of ideas by the various specialists about a particular child, to enable each of the workers in the agency to get a complete picture of the child and of the part played by physical, psychological, and psychiatric disturbances in his behavior and to bring forth certain recommendations for his future. This conference meets from 10:00 o'clock every Friday morning until about 12:30, and as a general rule three cases are considered. First the social worker presents the social history of the child, including his family background, his economic, health, and developmental history and a statement of the problem for which he was referred. Usually the social workers of the referring and of other interested agencies are present and add to the social history and further understanding of the child. The medical report is read so that physical difficulties can be known, allowances made for them, and plans devised taking them into account. Then the reports of the counsellors and school teachers who have seen the child at play and work daily are read so that any differences between previous and present behavior may be discovered and any discrepancies in reports may be supplemented. The psychological report is interpreted, giving intelligence quotient, special abilities

the first time I have seen a specimen of the genus. It is a small tree, 10-12 m. high, with a trunk 15 cm. in diameter. The leaves are opposite, elliptic-lanceolate, 15-20 cm. long, 5-7 cm. wide, acute at the apex, obtuse at the base, entire, smooth, dark green above, pale green below. The flowers are numerous, white, 5-petaled, 1 cm. in diameter,生于葉腋，或生于葉之基部。花期在夏秋之交。果實球形，直徑約1.5 cm.，熟時紅色，味酸，可食。種子圓形，直徑約1 cm.，有白毛。根系發達，主根粗大，側根多而長。

and often suggestions for future occupations. Finally the psychiatrist summarizes her report, bringing out her interpretation of the child's feelings and needs of the child. Then there is a general discussion by all the members of the conference as to the best possible plan for the child in the light of existing resources, money available, etc. Plans which are impracticable are carefully avoided. At the end of this conference certain recommendations are set forth which in the light of the thorough study of the child and the open staff discussion seem to be the best plan for the child's future welfare. If the child is referred by another agency, it is generally left for this agency to see that the plans are carried out. If parents or other lay people have referred the child, the social workers connected with the Little Wanderers Home have responsibility for making future arrangements for the child.

If it is at all possible for the child to make an adjustment in his home with the help and supervision of a well-trained social worker this plan is tried first. If a good foster home is necessary, a study is made of the child's personality and needs and a foster home is found which attempts to fit in with his personality and needs. Then a social worker follows his progress in the home, helping him when necessary and interpreting his needs to the foster parents. This foster home placement may mean the New England Home for Little Wanderers will have to meet board and clothing expenses.

the first time in the history of the world, the  
whole of the human race has been gathered  
together in one place, and that is the  
present meeting of the World's Fair.  
The great number of people here  
from all parts of the world, and the  
large amount of money spent by them,  
will be a great stimulus to the  
development of the country, and will  
help to make it a great power.  
The World's Fair is a great  
success, and it will be remembered  
as one of the greatest events in  
the history of the world.

However, if there is any parent or relative interested in the child, he is encouraged to pay all or some part of the expense in accordance with his ability.

If it has been found that a child has not done well in a foster home after having been given several fair trials, institutional placement may be tried.

Sometimes children become the permanent legal wards of the Home. In this case the social worker stands by them until they are of age, sometimes seeing them graduate from college. On the other hand, some children can be satisfactorily adjusted in family life either in their own or foster families and can be discharged from care much sooner. The length of time of care depends upon the situation of the particular child concerned.

Sometimes children are placed for adoption. This is not done, however, until it has been made sure that the child has no chance with his own parent or parents, that his inheritances are such as to promise satisfactory development in a good home and a home has been found in every way qualified to give the child loving care and intelligent training and education.<sup>15</sup>

#### Summary

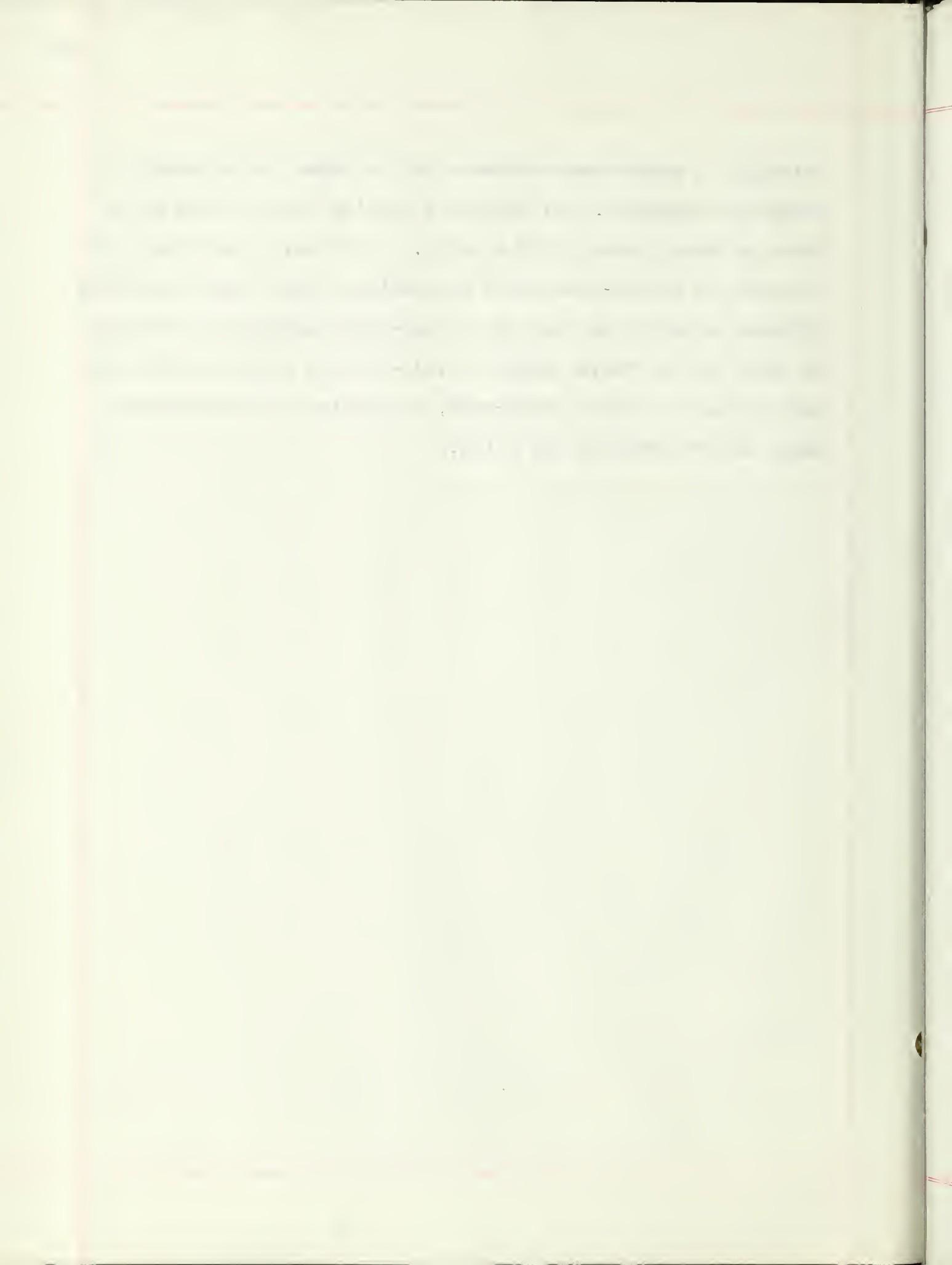
In summary the New England Home for Little Wanderers is designed to help the child facing a difficult problem. It is

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<sup>15</sup> Little Wanderers' Advocate, op. cit., pp. 15-16.

the same time, the author has been able to make a number of observations which will be of interest to those who are interested in the study of the life history of the *Leucania* species. The author has observed the following stages in the life history of *L. separata*:  
1. Egg. The eggs are laid in small clusters on the leaves of the host plant. They are white at first, but turn yellowish-green as they approach hatching. The eggs are about 1.5 mm. in diameter.  
2. Larva. The larva is a caterpillar with a dark brown head and a light-colored body. It has several prolegs and a prothoracic shield. The caterpillar feeds on the leaves of the host plant and grows rapidly.  
3. Pupa. The pupa is a chrysalis with a light-colored body and a dark brown head. It has a prothoracic shield and a prothoracic shield. The pupa is attached to the ground by a silken thread.  
4. Adult. The adult is a moth with a wingspan of about 4 cm. The forewings are light-colored with a dark brown border. The hindwings are light-colored with a dark brown border. The moth flies at night and is attracted to light.  
5. Egg. The eggs are laid in small clusters on the leaves of the host plant. They are white at first, but turn yellowish-green as they approach hatching. The eggs are about 1.5 mm. in diameter.  
6. Larva. The larva is a caterpillar with a dark brown head and a light-colored body. It has several prolegs and a prothoracic shield. The caterpillar feeds on the leaves of the host plant and grows rapidly.  
7. Pupa. The pupa is a chrysalis with a light-colored body and a dark brown head. It has a prothoracic shield and a prothoracic shield. The pupa is attached to the ground by a silken thread.  
8. Adult. The adult is a moth with a wingspan of about 4 cm. The forewings are light-colored with a dark brown border. The hindwings are light-colored with a dark brown border. The moth flies at night and is attracted to light.

primarily a short-time residence for children for purposes of study and diagnosis, the residence lasting only as long as it takes to make a study of the child. Occasionally children are accepted on a long-time basis for medical care. More frequently children accepted for care on a long-time basis are supervised in their own or foster homes by well-trained social workers who make use of the staff conference, diagnosis, and recommendations in treatment of the child.



## CHAPTER III

## TYPE OF CHILDREN CONSIDERED IN CONFERENCE IN 1935

It seems best to be completely familiar with the type of child referred to the Little Wanderers' Home, his age, religion, sex, intelligence quotient, and family circumstances before considering the value of the Home's influence on the child.

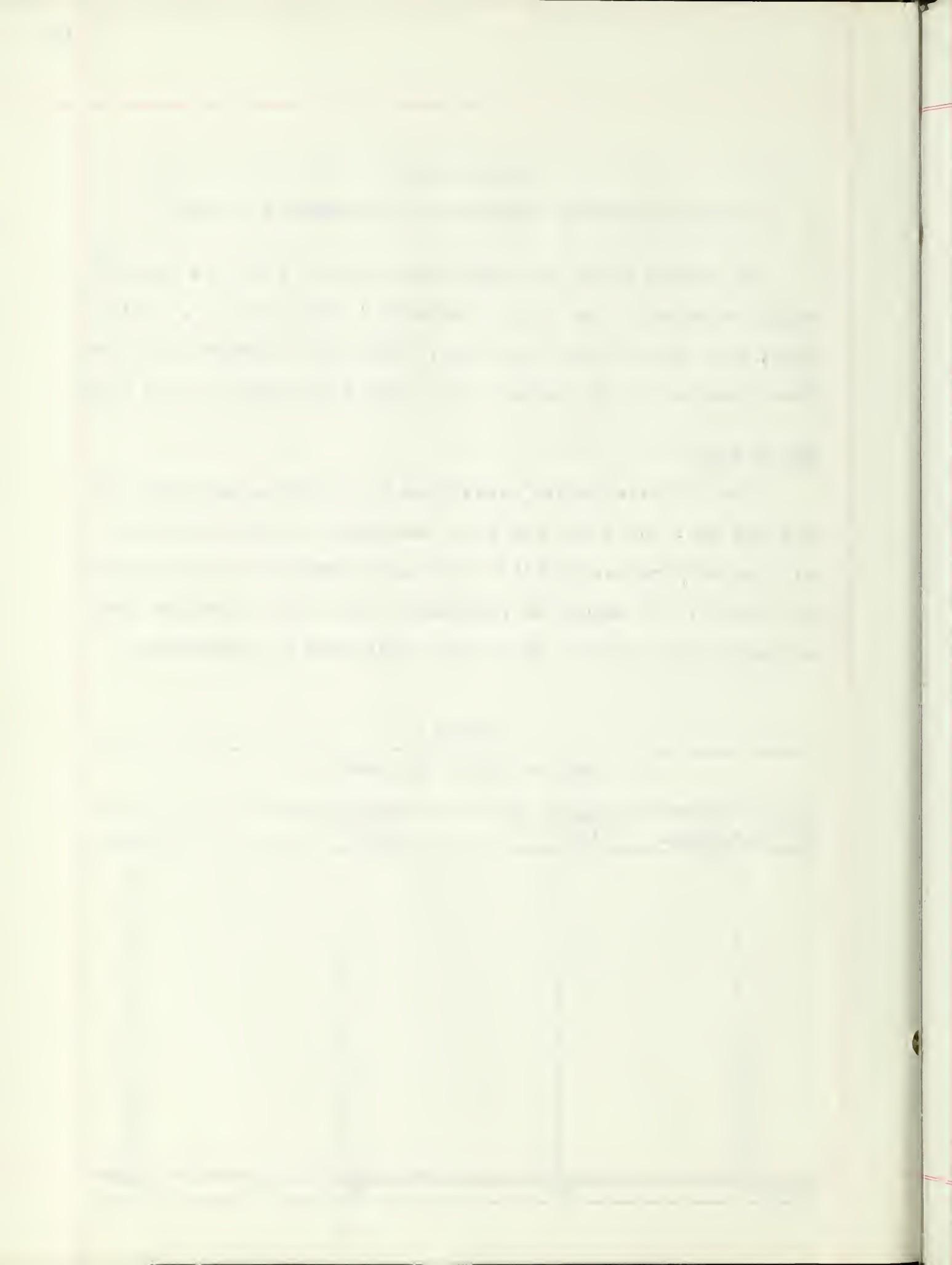
Age and Sex

The following table classifies the children according to age and sex. Race has not been considered in this table as all the children were white with the exception of one colored boy aged 8. It should be remembered that age is defined here as age at the time the child was considered in conference.

TABLE I

## AGE AND SEX OF CHILDREN

Age at time of conference	Number of Girls	Number of Boys	Total
1	1	0	1
2	2	1	3
3	1	1	2
4	0	1	1
5	2	2	4
6	0	4	4
7	3	1	4
8	4	3	7
9	2	4	6
10	2	7	9
11	1	3	4
12	1	6	7
13	8	2	10
14	0	6	6
15	4	0	4
16	2	0	2
17	3	0	3
Total	36	41	77

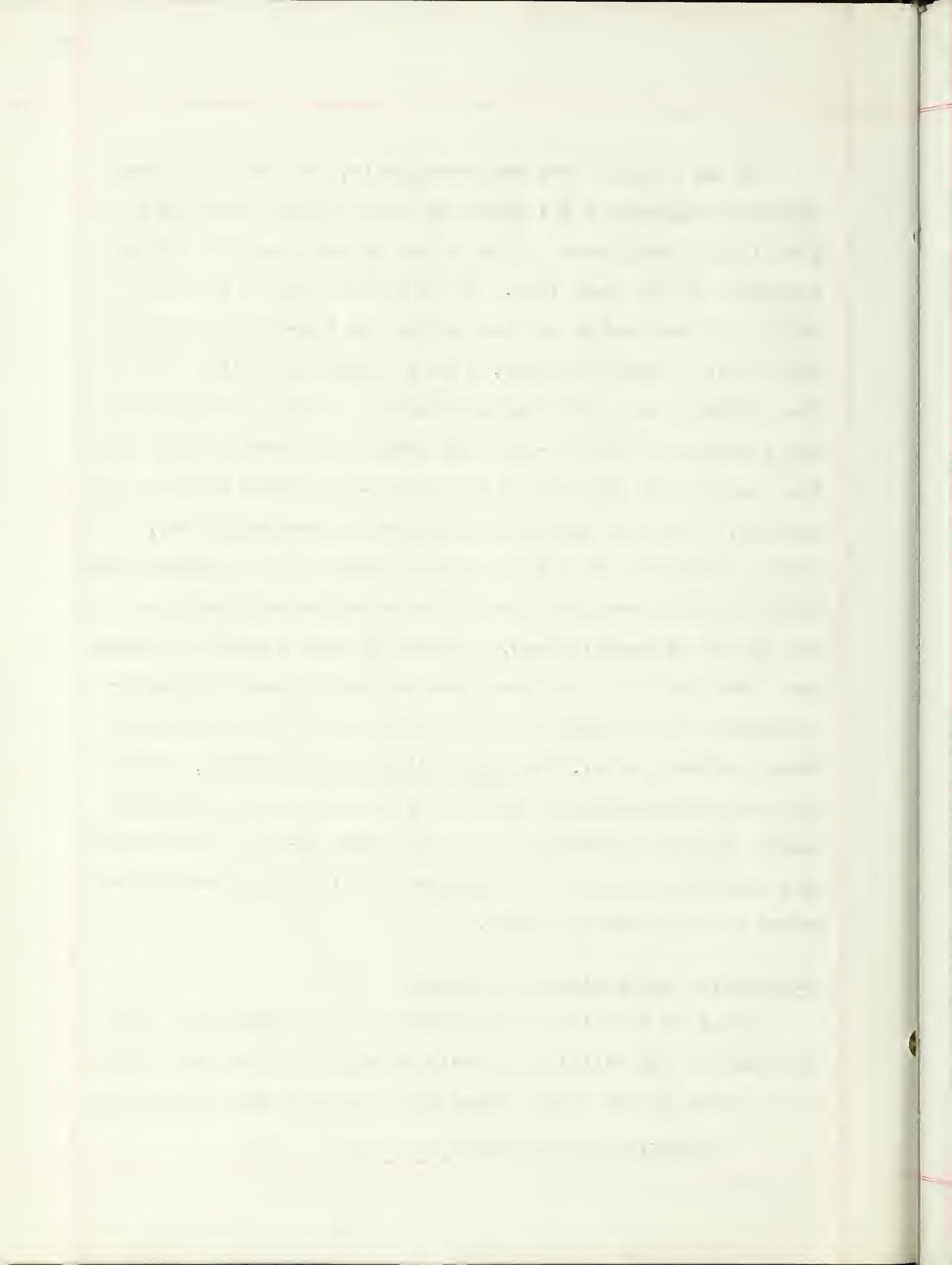


As can be seen from the above table, the number of boys approximately equals the number of girls. There were 36 girls and 41 boys considered in conference in the Home for Little Wanderers in the year 1935. It is interesting to see that while a larger number of boys was in the ten-year age group than in any other age group, a larger number of girls was in the 13-year group. The largest number of cases for both boys and girls was in the 13-year age group. The mean age for girls was 10.53 while for boys it was only 9.63. There were no boys over 14. The mean age of all children, disregarding sex, was 10.92. From this it can be seen that many of the children had their life patterns and ideals formed before being studied at the Little Wanderers' Home, and many of them whose environment and home conditions had been poor had had a chance to be unfavorable and lastingly influenced by them. Baylor and Monachesi in their study, The Rehabilitation of Children, found that the readjustment of children in foster homes to be most likely to be unfavorable in the age group 13-24.<sup>16</sup> On examining the above table it is found that 25 or 32 per cent of the cases fall in this age group.

#### Nationality and Religion of Parents

Table II classifies the children in accordance with the nationality and religion of their parents. In the year 1935, as is shown on the table, there were twice as many Protestants

16 Baylor and Monachesi, op. cit., p. 241.



as Catholics considered in conference. It can also be seen that there are more in the American-born Protestant group than there are in any other group. Fifty-one of the 72 children have American-born parents, leaving only 26 children of whom one or both parents are foreign born. The greater number of foreign-born parents, 15, come from Central and Eastern Europe, a culture quite different from ours. Five come from Southern Europe and two from Canada.

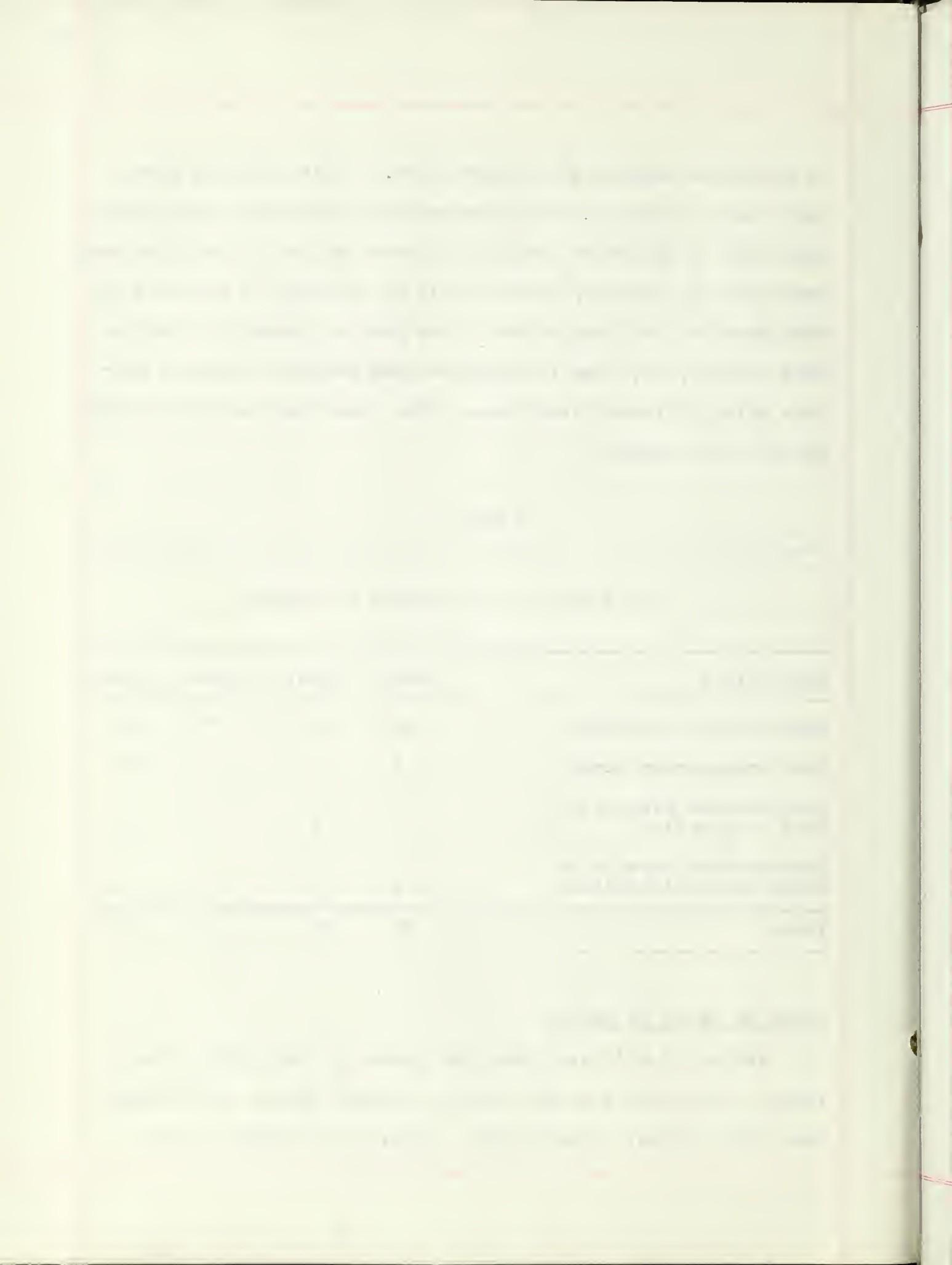
TABLE II

## NATIONALITY AND RELIGION OF PARENTS

Nationality	Prot.	Cath.	Mixed	Total
American-born parents	34	10	7	51
One foreign-born parent	7	3	1	11
Foreign-born parents of same nationality	0	6	0	6
Foreign-born parents of different nationalities	5	3	1	9
Total	46	22	9	77

Place of Child in Family

Table III will deal with the place of the child in the family. This table shows that the largest number of children come from the only child group. However, on examining the

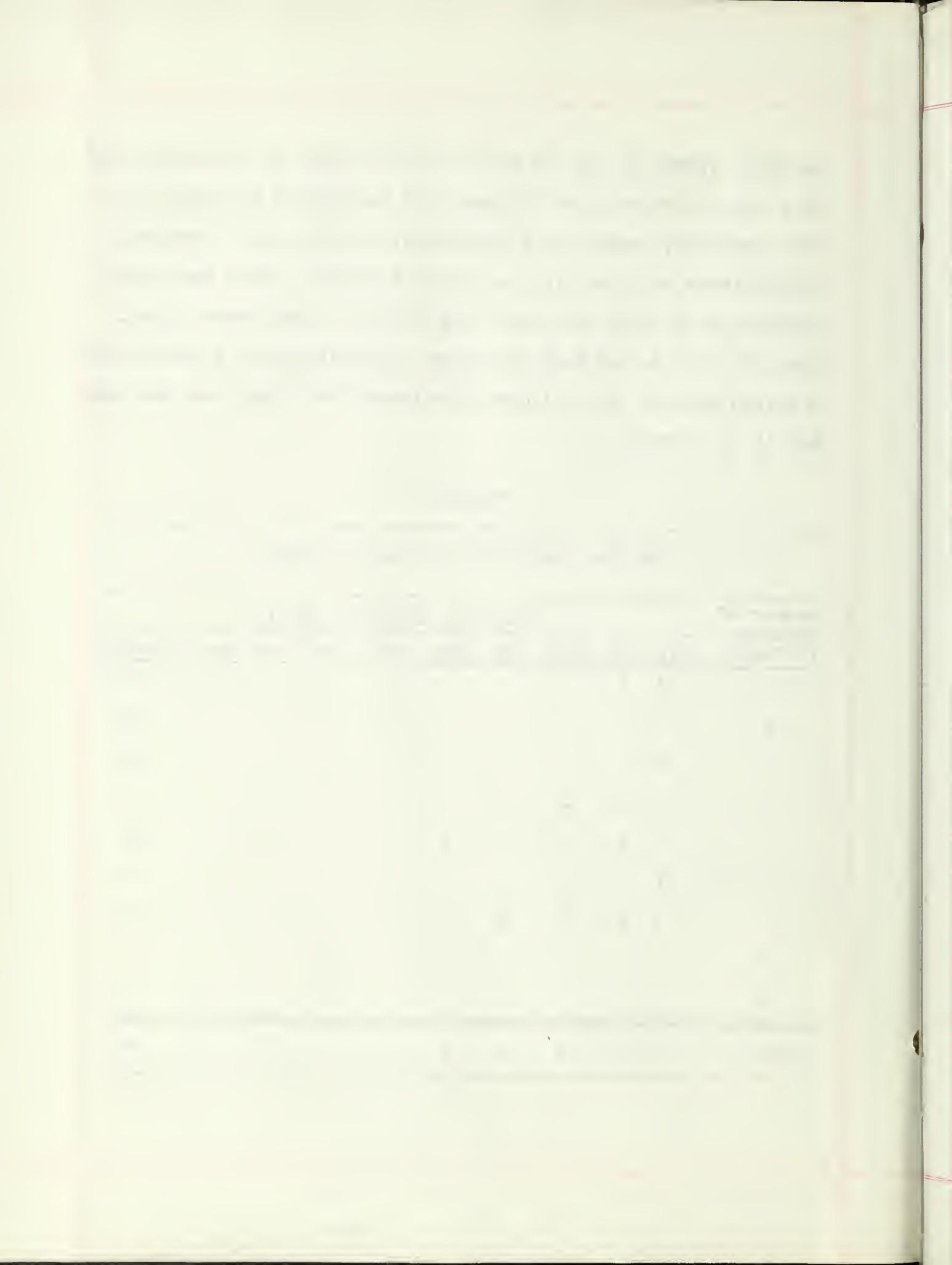


material closer it can be seen that only four of the total number, 14, in the only child group are legitimate children. Of the remainder, seven are illegitimate children and three are illegitimate children who have been adopted. There were more children with three in their family than in any other group. Also, it will be noticed that even discounting the illegitimate children most of the children considered for study are the oldest in the family.

TABLE III

## ORDINAL POSITION OF CHILD IN FAMILY

Number of children in family	Place of child in family									Total
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	
1	14	1	1							16
2	8	2								10
3	4	7	7							18
4	1	2	2	2						7
5	2	2	3	2	4					13
6	2									2
7	1	1	3	2						7
8						1				1
9							2	1	3	
Total	32	15	16	6	4	0	3	0	1	77



### Referring Agencies

Next the type of agencies referring the children is considered. Table IV shows that the various Children's Aid Societies have the largest number of referrals, 20. Twelve referrals were made by hospitals and 18 referrals were made by relatives, friends, or schools. A large number of referrals are made with the diagnostic service rather than the foster home service in view. Child placing agencies, for instance, have foster homes available but are seeking the advice of experts on the best possible plan for the children in whom they are interested.

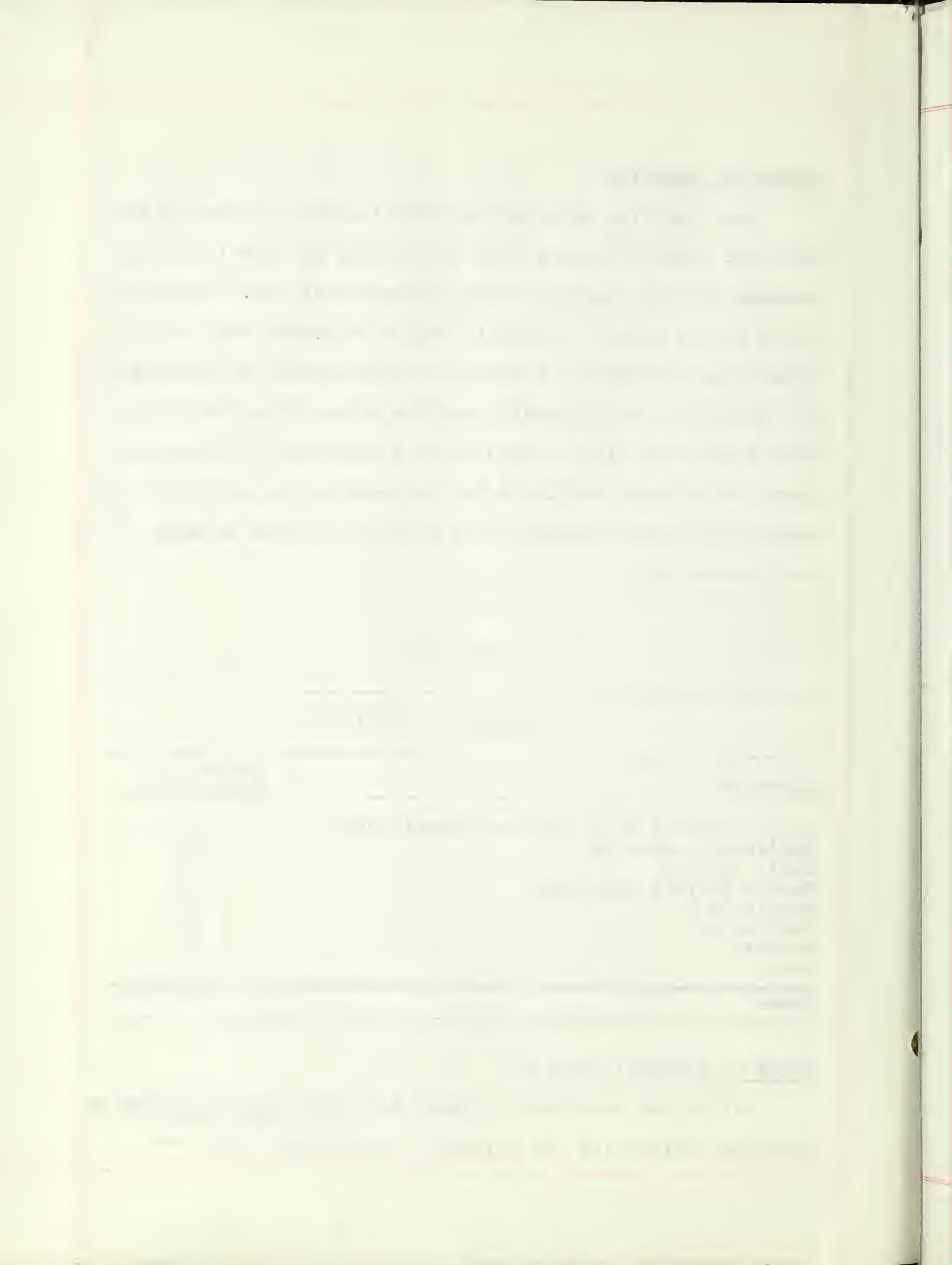
TABLE IV

## REFERRING AGENCIES

Agencies	Number of Referrals
Branch offices of Little Wanderers' Home	3
Children's agencies	35
Habit clinics	5
Family welfare societies	2
Hospitals	12
Lay people	16
Schools	2
Law	2
Total	77

Types of Referral Problem

Baylor and Monachesi in their book, The Rehabilitation of Children, classified the children in accordance with the



different types of problems for which they were referred and showed how age, sex, physical condition, nationality, etc., were distributed in these categories.<sup>17</sup> This seemed to be an excellent method of dealing with the subject as it does not seem proper to have physical problems, behavior problems, temporary problems, and dependency problems all in the same category. Therefore a similar plan is attempted in this study. The following table attempts to show the types of cases included in each category so that there will be no misunderstanding. In the subheadings under behavior problems each case is recorded only once. It was found that by arranging the headings in the manner listed on Table V that it was not necessary to record any case more than once. For instance, in many cases masturbation, eneurisis, and temper tantrums seemed to go together. In almost every case of stealing there was lying. In one case where there was truancy there were also temper tantrums, but as truancy was the primary reason for referral the case was recorded under the truancy heading.

It can be seen from this table that the behavior problem group contains a large majority of the cases. The largest number of children, 14, were referred for stealing; the next largest, 10, were referred for poor habits, such as eneurisis, masturbation, temper tantrums, or nailbiting. Only three were referred for immorality.

17 Ibid., p. 74.

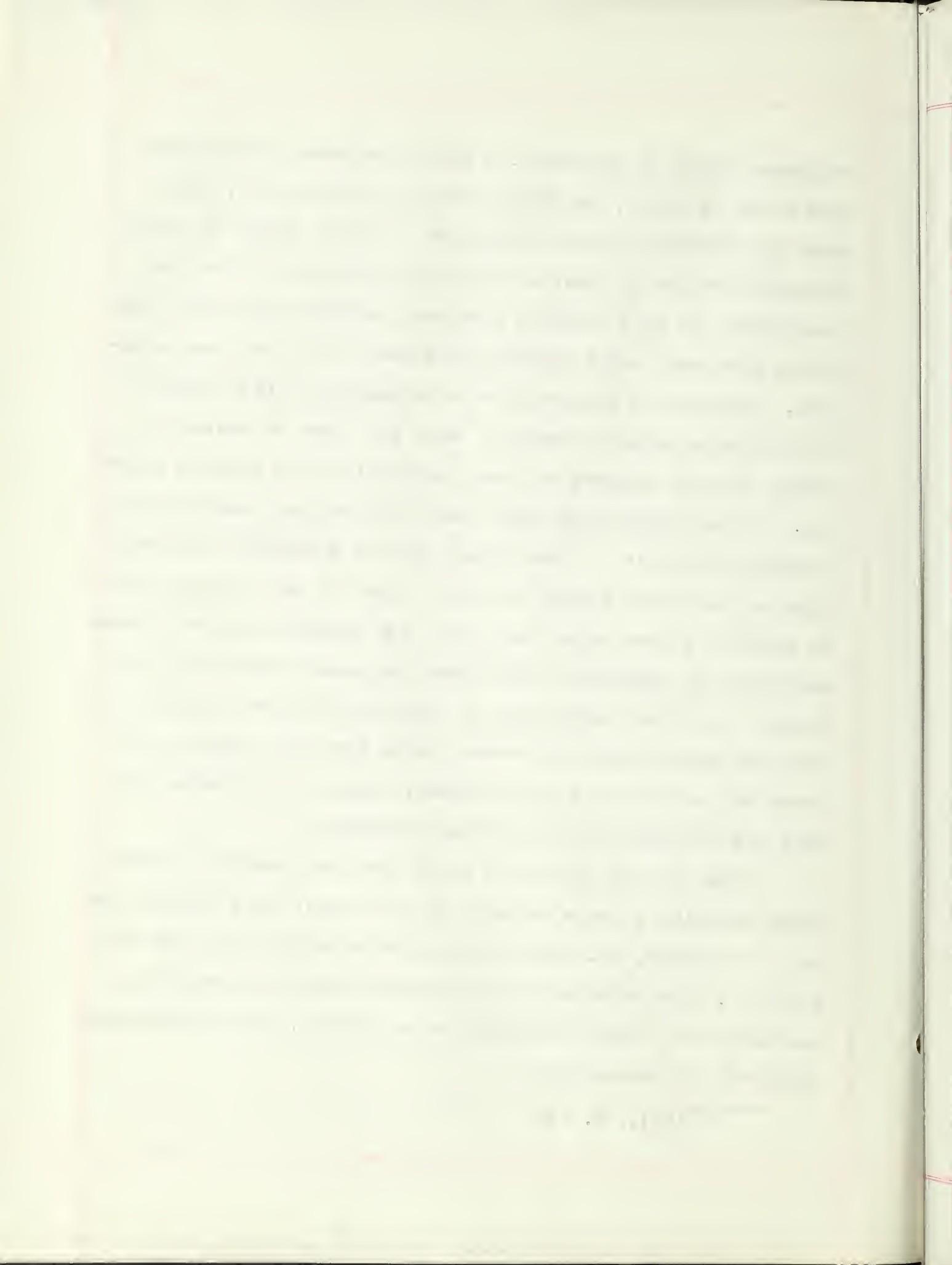


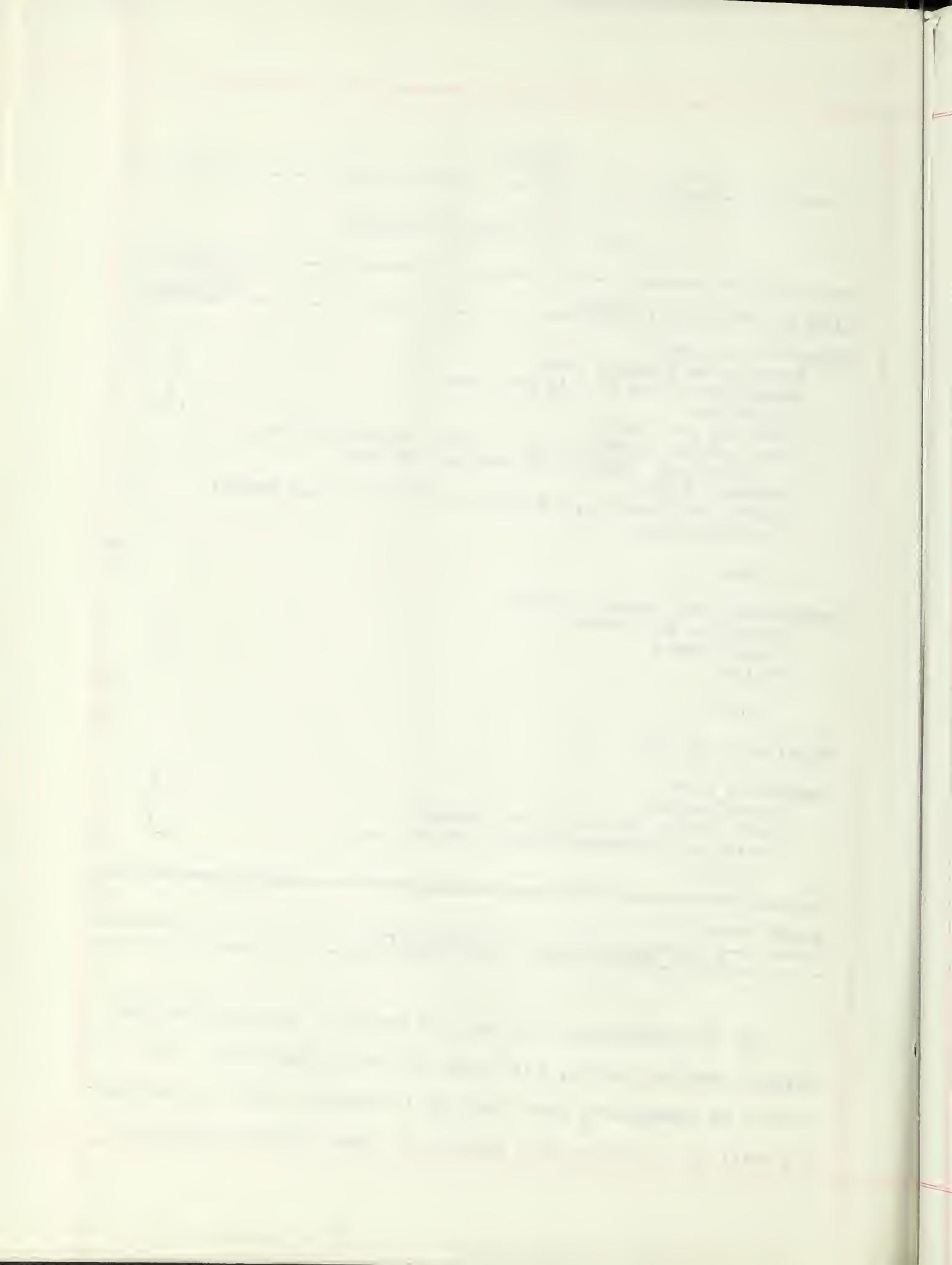
TABLE V

## TYPE OF REFERRAL PROBLEM

Type of Referral Problem	Number of Cases
Behavior Problems:	
Truancy or running away	6
Unmanageability or disobedience	7
Immorality	3
Stealing and lying	14
Poor habits (eneurisis, soiling, masturbation, nailbiting, temper, or excess crying)	10
Abnormal fears	5
Others (effeminacy, reading difficulty, and mental retardation)	3
Total	48
Dependency and Neglect Cases:	
Desertion of mother	3
Illegitimacy	7
Neglect	2
Total	12
Physical Problems	9
Temporary Care	
Convalescent	2
Care during mother's confinement	5
Awaiting transportation to relatives	1
Total	8
Grand Total	77

a For definitions see appendix

In the dependency and neglect group it is seen that the largest number, seven, was referred for illegitimacy. It should be remembered here that an illegitimate child not adjusting well in a foster home because of some specific behavior



problem would be included in the behavior problem group. As the table shows, there are 12 cases in the dependency and neglect group.

The nine physical problems include children with such ailments as megacolon, possible syphilis, deafness, cleft palate, spina bifida, spastic hemaphlegia, and questioned epilepsy.

There were eight children in the group of temporary cases. In each of these cases, however, it was found that a more permanent plan would have to be made and a study of the child was made.

Now a series of tables follow in which the cases are reclassified so that a better understanding of the material may be gained.

#### Sex of Children in Relation to Type of Referral Problem

TABLE VI

#### SEX OF CHILDREN IN RELATION TO TYPE OF REFERRAL PROBLEM

Sex	Behavior Problems	Dep. and Neg.	Phys. Prob.	Temp. Care	Total
Girls	26	3	4	3	36
Boys	22	9	5	5	41
Total	48	12	9	8	77

a Dep. and Neg. stands for dependency and neglect; Phys. Prob. for physical problems; Temp. Care for temporary care.



There are 26 girls in the behavior problem group in comparison to 22 boys. However, in all other groups the boys outnumber the girls slightly - from nine to three in the dependency and neglect group, from five to four in the physical problem group, and from five to three in the temporary care group. This table points out that, while on the whole number the boys outnumber the girls by five, in the behavior group the girls outnumber the boys by three. Considering the behavior problem group as the group hardest to deal with, one might expect girls to have a lower degree of success than boys in the study.

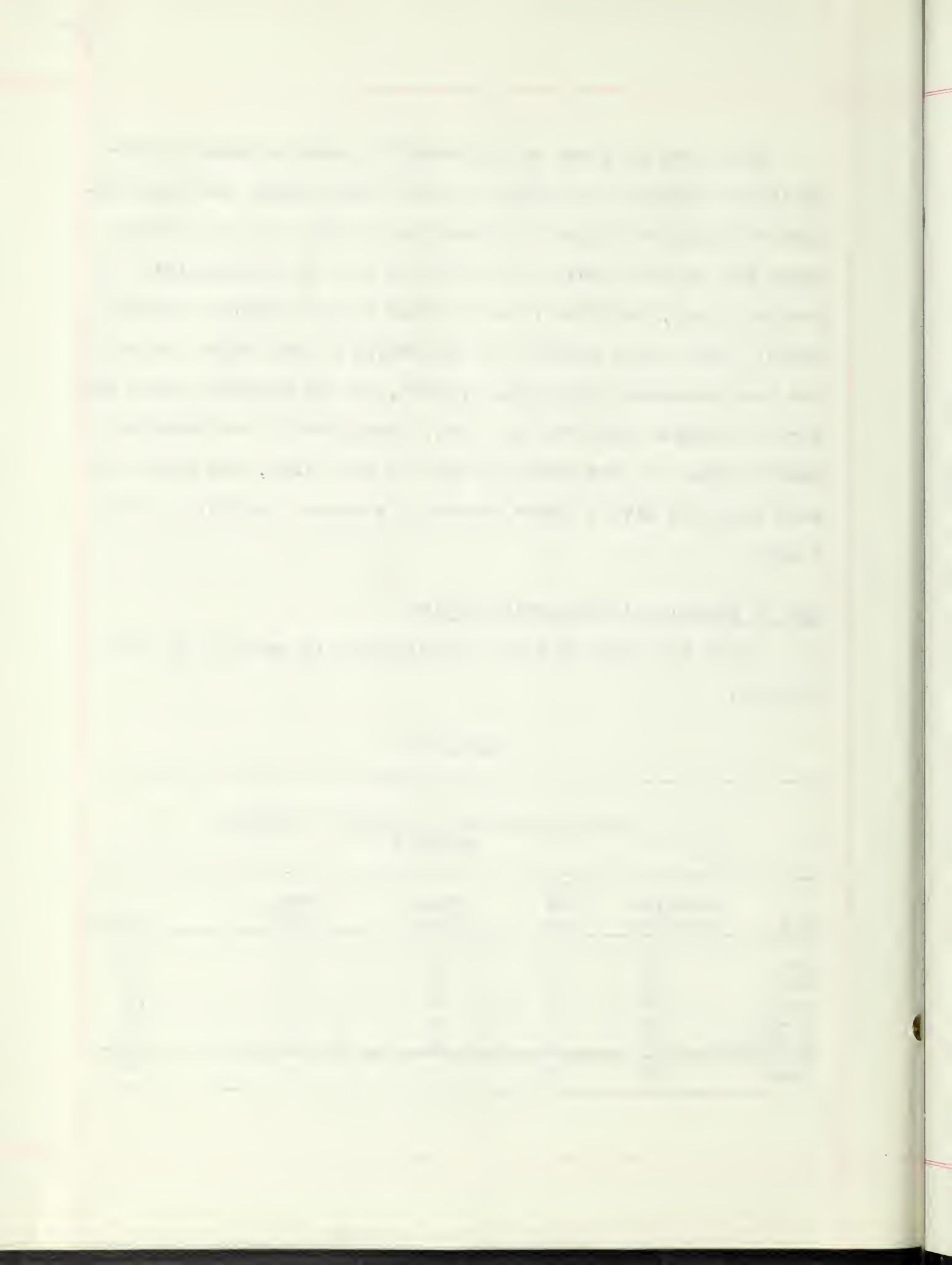
#### Age in Relation to Referral Problem

Table VII shows the age distribution in each of the four classes.

TABLE VII

#### AGE IN RELATION TO TYPE OF REFERRAL PROBLEM

Age	Behavior Problems	Dep. and Neg.	Phys. Prob.	Temp. Care	Total
1-4	3	3	0	1	7
5-8	9	3	3	2	17
9-12	19	4	2	4	29
13-16	14	2	4	1	21
17-20	3	0	0	0	3
Total	48	12	9	8	77



The largest number of children in the behavior problem group (19 or 40 per cent of the total behavior problem group) fall in the age group 9-12. An almost equally large number (14 or 29 per cent of the total behavior problem group) fall in the age group 13-16. Thus, 69 per cent of the behavior problem cases fall in the age group 9-16. Baylor and Monachesi found in their study of children placed in foster homes that the age group 13-24 was most likely to have an unfavorable outcome.<sup>18</sup> While this study is not entirely comparable to the above-mentioned study it is interesting to note that 35 per cent of the cases in the behavior problem group fall in this age group.

One might expect a more hopeful outcome in the dependency and neglect cases as one-fourth fall in the age group one to four years and an additional fourth fall in the age group five to eight years. Only two fall in the age group 13-16.

Table VIII considers the marital status of the child's parents. It shows that in the behavior problem group 28 of the parents were separated for reasons of death, divorce, separation, or desertion, while only 20 were living together. This is understandable when one considers that the New England Home for Little Wanderers is a child placing agency as well as a diagnostic clinic. Problem children in well-adjusted families might be taken to one of the various habit clinics throughout New England or some other similar agency.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., p. 241.



TABLE VIII

## MARITAL STATUS OF PARENTS

Marital Status of Parents	Behavior Problems	Dep.and Neg.	Phys. Prob.	Temp. Care	Total
One or both parents dead	14	0	5	1	20
Divorce, desertion, or separation	14	12	0	5	31
Living together	20	0	4	2	26
Total	48	12	9	8	77

Child's Place of Living Before Referral

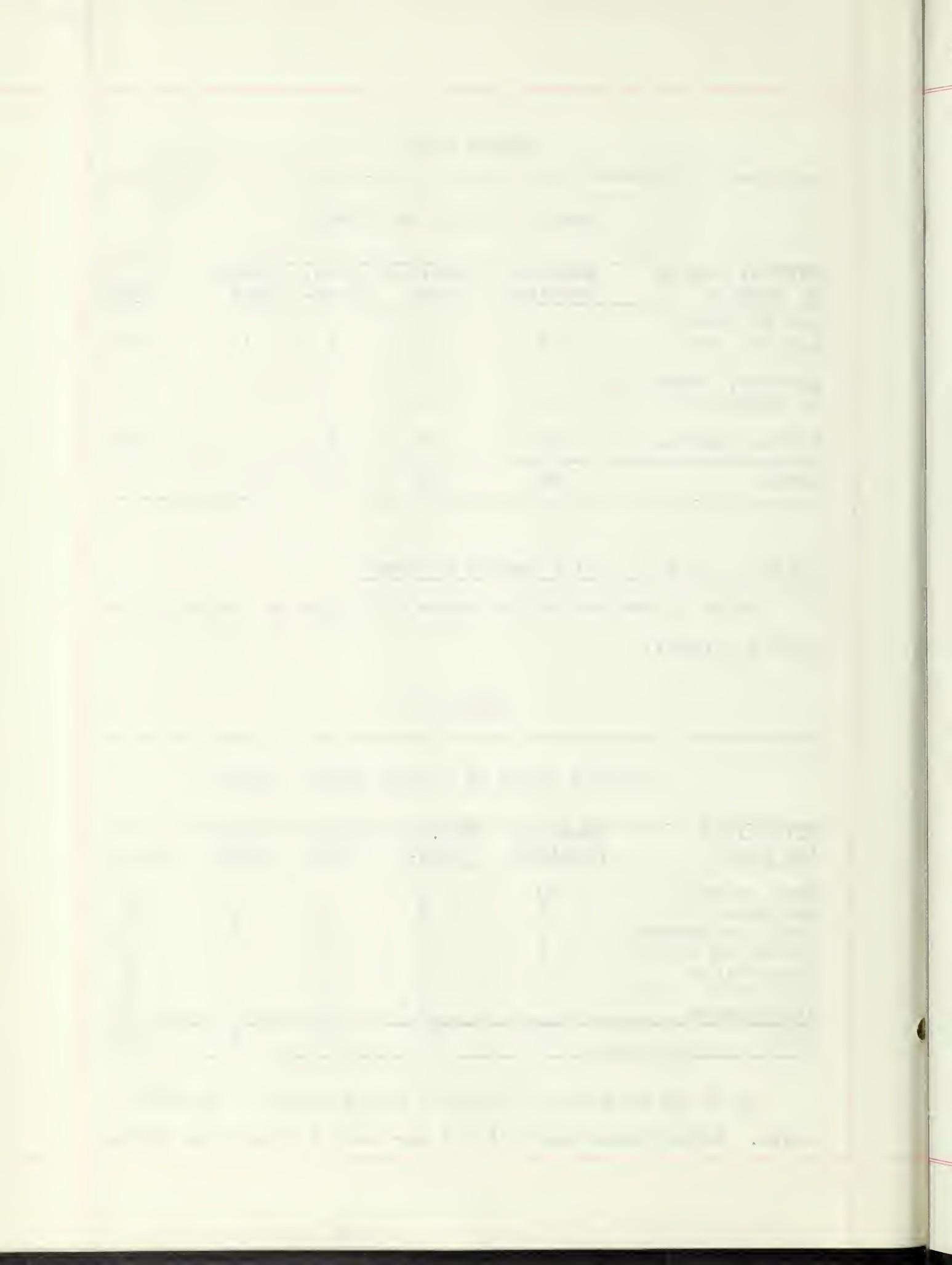
Table IX deals with the place of living of the child before referral.

TABLE IX

## CHILD'S PLACE OF LIVING BEFORE REFERRAL

Child liv- ing with -	Behavior Problems	Dep.and Neg.	Phys. Prob.	Temp. Care	Total
Both parents	18	0	4	7	29
One parent	6	3	3	1	13
Adoptive parents	1	4	0	0	5
Foster parents	9	1	1	0	11
Institution	0	3	0	0	3
Relatives	7	1	1	0	9
Stepparents	7	0	0	0	7
Total	48	12	9	8	77

It is interesting to contrast percentages in the above table. While there were only 14 per cent who were not living



with both parents in the temporary cases, there were 38 per cent in this predicament in the behavior problem group and 80 per cent in the physical problem group. The dependency group is excluded from this comparison by definition.

#### Social Background of Children

TABLE X

#### SOCIAL BACKGROUND OF CHILDREN

Social Background	B.P.	D.&N.	Phys.	Temp.	Total
Broken home	28	4	5	2	39
Drunkenness	10	3	3	0	16
Incompatability	8	1	0	5	14
Immorality	6	0	0	0	6
Extreme nervousness or psychosis	5	0	0	2	7
Open rejection	4	2	3	0	9
Physical defect or long illness of parent	4	2	0	0	6
Physical abnormality, accident, or long ill- ness of child	3	0	8	0	11
Poverty and many children	1	0	0	0	1
Illegitimacy	7	8	0	0	15
Different cultural standards	2	0	0	0	2
Poor discipline	2	1	0	0	3
Institutionalized at an early age	0	2	0	0	2
Nothing of note	5	0	0	0	5

In recording the social background and unhealthy influences of the children, the writer found that often one child would have, for instance, immorality, incompatability, and drunkenness in his social background. In this case one mark

the first time in the history of the world, the  
whole of the human race has been gathered  
together in one place, and that is the  
present meeting of the World's Fair.  
The great number of people here  
from all parts of the world, and the  
large amount of money spent by them,  
will be a great stimulus to the  
development of the country, and will  
help to make it a great power.  
The World's Fair is a great  
success, and it will be remembered  
as one of the greatest events in  
the history of the world.

would be placed by each classification. In other words, as a general rule, each case is represented more than once on this table. The most outstanding factor is, of course, the large number of broken homes, 39 in all. Added to this are 15 illegitimate children. Twenty-eight of the children from the Behavior Problem group come from broken homes and seven of the illegitimate group. It is also interesting to note that in 16 of the cases drunkenness seems to play a part. In only five cases does there seem to be a normal family background with none of the above-mentioned family difficulties entering into the picture.

#### Physical Condition of Children

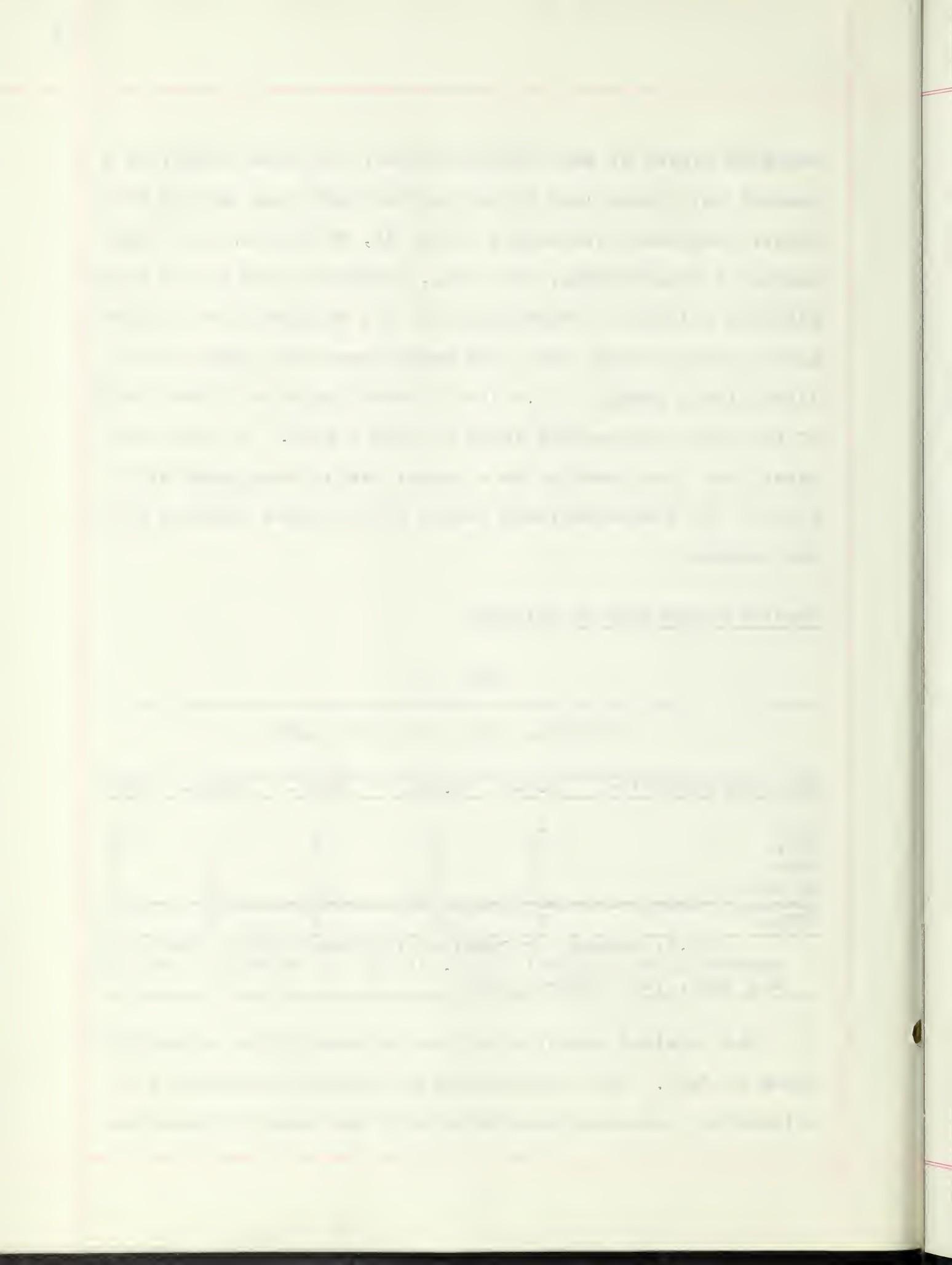
TABLE XI

#### PHYSICAL CONDITION OF CHILDREN

Physical Condition	B.P.	D.&N.	Phys.	Temp.	Total
Good	11	4	0	0	15
Fair	33	8	3	8	52
Poor	2	0	6	0	8
No exam	2	0	0	0	2
Total	48	12	9	8	77

a B.P. stands for behavior problems; D.&N. stands for dependency and neglect; Phys. stands for physical problems; and Temp. for temporary care.

The physical condition of the children in the majority of cases is fair. This classification included the poorly developed and undernourished child with such minor ailments as



carious teeth, malloclusion, or the necessity for removal of tonsils and adenoids. Full definition of each classification has been stated in the appendix.

### Intelligence Quotients of Children

TABLE XII

#### INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENTS OF CHILDREN

Intelligence Quotient	B.P.	D.&N.	Phys.	Temp.	Total
111 and over Superior	4	0	0	0	4
91-110 Normal	20	7	4	5	36
81-90 Dull normal	17	3	1	1	22
71-80 Borderline	3	1	2	1	7
70 and below Defective	4	0	2	0	6
No test given	0	1	0	1	2
Total	48	12	9	8	77

The table classifying I. Q. into types of referral problems showed that 36/77 or 47 per cent of the cases fell into the normal intelligence group, while 22/77 or 29 per cent fell into the dull normal group. Only four of the children had an Intelligence Quotient of 111 or over, while 13 had an

1920-1921 - 1921-1922 - 1922-1923 - 1923-1924 - 1924-1925 - 1925-1926 -

1926-1927 - 1927-1928 - 1928-1929 - 1929-1930 - 1930-1931 - 1931-1932 - 1932-1933 -

1933-1934 - 1934-1935 - 1935-1936 - 1936-1937 - 1937-1938 - 1938-1939 - 1939-1940 -

1940-1941 - 1941-1942 - 1942-1943 - 1943-1944 - 1944-1945 - 1945-1946 - 1946-1947 -

1947-1948 - 1948-1949 - 1949-1950 - 1950-1951 - 1951-1952 - 1952-1953 - 1953-1954 -

1954-1955 - 1955-1956 - 1956-1957 - 1957-1958 - 1958-1959 - 1959-1960 - 1960-1961 -

1961-1962 - 1962-1963 - 1963-1964 - 1964-1965 - 1965-1966 - 1966-1967 - 1967-1968 -

1968-1969 - 1969-1970 - 1970-1971 - 1971-1972 - 1972-1973 - 1973-1974 - 1974-1975 -

1975-1976 - 1976-1977 - 1977-1978 - 1978-1979 - 1979-1980 - 1980-1981 - 1981-1982 -

1982-1983 - 1983-1984 - 1984-1985 - 1985-1986 - 1986-1987 - 1987-1988 - 1988-1989 -

1989-1990 - 1990-1991 - 1991-1992 - 1992-1993 - 1993-1994 - 1994-1995 - 1995-1996 -

1996-1997 - 1997-1998 - 1998-1999 - 1999-2000 - 2000-2001 - 2001-2002 - 2002-2003 -

2003-2004 - 2004-2005 - 2005-2006 - 2006-2007 - 2007-2008 - 2008-2009 - 2009-2010 -

2010-2011 - 2011-2012 - 2012-2013 - 2013-2014 - 2014-2015 - 2015-2016 - 2016-2017 -

2017-2018 - 2018-2019 - 2019-2020 - 2020-2021 - 2021-2022 - 2022-2023 - 2023-2024 -

2024-2025 - 2025-2026 - 2026-2027 - 2027-2028 - 2028-2029 - 2029-2030 - 2030-2031 -

2031-2032 - 2032-2033 - 2033-2034 - 2034-2035 - 2035-2036 - 2036-2037 - 2037-2038 -

2038-2039 - 2039-2040 - 2040-2041 - 2041-2042 - 2042-2043 - 2043-2044 - 2044-2045 -

2045-2046 - 2046-2047 - 2047-2048 - 2048-2049 - 2049-2050 - 2050-2051 - 2051-2052 -

Intelligence Quotient below 80. Thus, the children of mostly normal and dull normal intelligence. If a mean were taken of the Intelligence Quotients of these children, it would have a tendency to approach the dull normal limits.

The four superior intelligence cases fell into the behavior problem group as did the largest number of feeble-minded children (four in comparison with the two in the physical problem group). It is interesting to note that while in all groups the highest number of cases falls in the normal intelligence group in only the behavior problem and dependency groups does the next highest number of cases fall in the dull normal group.

#### Summary

In summary, the 77 conference cases considered at the Home for Little Wanderers contained 41 boys and 36 girls, the mean age of whom was 10.92 years. Over half of the children came from Protestant, American-born parents. Over one-half of these children were the first-born children in their families, and there were more children in families of three children than in any other group. The greatest number of referrals were made by children's agencies, behavior problems of children being the cause of referral in the majority of cases. The largest number of referrals were made because of stealing and lying, poor habits such as enuresis, soiling, masturbation, etc., following in the second grouping. The various tables show that the majority of these children come from broken homes, that



only 29 of the 77 children referred were living at home with both parents. Only five of the 77 children lived at home with both parents with no unhealthy environmental influences such as drunkenness, incompatability, immorality of parents, etc., to disturb them. The majority of children were only in fair physical condition. They were poorly developed and nourished and had such minor ailments as malloclusion, carious teeth, etc. Fifty-eight of the 77 children had either normal or dull normal intelligence. There were four with superior intelligence and 13 with an Intelligence Quotient below eighty.



CHAPTER IV  
RESULTS OF FOLLOW-UP STUDY

Now that the reader is familiar with the type of child referred to the Little Wanderers Home the results in the behavior and adjustment of the children after a five-year period has elapsed will be discussed. Were the conference recommendations carried out? What were the reasons for not carrying out recommendations? How many children were found to have benefited by the Home's contact after five years? Were the children of the highest intelligence the ones mostly to benefit by their contact with the Little Wanderers' Home? These and other similar questions will be answered in tabular form in this chapter.

Were Recommendations Carried Out?

TABLE XIII

RESULTS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Results of Rec- ommendations	B.P.	D. & N.	Phys.	Temp.	Total
Carried out	27	9	6	8	50
Partially carried out	4	0	1	0	5
Not carried out	15	3	2	0	20
Unknown	2	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>77</b>

a For definitions see Chapter I, p. 4.

the first time I have seen it. It is a very large tree, and has a very large trunk. The bark is smooth and grey, and the leaves are green and pointed. The flowers are white and fragrant. The fruit is round and yellow, and tastes very good. The tree is very tall and straight, and stands in the middle of a clearing. There are many other trees around it, but none are as tall or as straight. The ground is covered in grass and small plants. The sky is blue and clear. The sun is shining brightly. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

The above table shows that the recommendations were carried out least often in the cases of behavior problems. Only 56 per cent of the recommendations were carried out in this group while 31 per cent were not carried out. In the temporary care group the recommendations were carried out in every case. In the dependency and neglect group the recommendations were carried out in 75 per cent of the cases and not carried out in 25 per cent of the cases. In the physical problem group the recommendations were carried out in 67 per cent of the cases and not carried out in 22 per cent of the cases. Considering total figures, 50 or only 65 per cent of the recommendations were carried out, five cases or 6 per cent were partially carried out, and 20 cases or 26 per cent were not carried out. In 2 cases or 3 per cent of the cases it was unknown whether or not the recommendations were carried out.

#### Reasons Recommendations Were Not Carried Out

As there seems to be a large number of recommendations which were not carried out, reasons are listed in the following table.

In 15 of the 16 cases in which the parents objected to recommendations being carried out in whole or in part, it was recommended that the child be placed away from home, either in a foster home, a school, or in an institution for truancy or feeble-mindedness. In one remaining case it was recommended that a social worker supervise the family. The family did



not use this supervision to good advantage and the case was closed after a period of time.

TABLE XIV

## REASONS RECOMMENDATIONS WERE NOT CARRIED OUT

Reasons	Partially Carried Out	Not Car- ried Out
Parents not cooperative	3	13
Psychiatrists disagree	0	2
Not followed by agency	2	3
Agency not able to carry out	0	2
Total	5	20

The two cases shown in the table in which the psychiatrists of the referring agencies disagreed with the psychiatrist of the Home will be later described in the discussion on successful cases in which the recommendations were not carried out.

The two cases where recommendations were only partially followed by the agency are described below. In one case it was recommended that the child be put in the State Home for Dependent Children. The referring agency placed the child in a private institution instead, but the original problem of stealing is still in existence. In the other case, the recommendations about the living plans were carried out successfully and the child made a good adjustment, but the special dentistry which was recommended by the Home was not carried out for financial reasons.



The three cases where the agency did not follow the Little Wanderers' Home's recommendations are as follows: 1. It was recommended that a girl be placed in a Catholic institution. Instead, the girl was made to work in a Catholic institution with no time off. The girl ran away from this institution and was later committed to the State Industrial School where she is making a poor adjustment. 2. It was recommended that a boy go to a trade school. Instead, because of his lack of promise and because of lack of financial means he was committed to the state. This plan worked well. The boy was happy in state foster homes and later joined the Army. 3. It was recommended that the social worker make an economic and health plan for the parents of the child or, if not, to commit the child to the Division of Child Guardianship. It was impossible to arrange a plan for the family and no attempt was made to commit the child to the state. Because of several stealing episodes and several unsuccessful attempts at foster home placement, she was committed to the State Industrial School at Lancaster on a stubborn child complaint by Little Wanderers' Home guardian. She has found it difficult to adjust to this institution.

The agency was not able to carry out conference recommendations in two cases. In the first case it was recommended that the Little Wanderers' Home take the case as an experiment, supplementing the state board. The state refused this plan as parents were willing to take her. At the present time the



child is very uncooperative at the state school for feeble-minded at Wrentham. Her Intelligence Quotient, which was 80 while at the Little Wanderers' Home, is now 65. She is suffering from ill effects of rheumatic fever and chorea. The second case was a child living with adoptive parents who were not considered by the psychiatrist to be good people for her to live with. The social worker was to work toward the goal of removing the child from her adoptive parents. The social worker, however, was unable to get the cooperation of the parents in this matter and she did not feel that she had a strong enough case for court action. The child remains overprotected and overdominated, perhaps temporarily helped by her stay at the Home for Little Wanderers.

#### Degree of Success

TABLE XV

#### DEGREE OF SUCCESS IN CONFERENCE CASES

Degree of Success	B.P.	D. & N.	Phys.	Temp.	Total
Success	23	8	7	7	45
Questioned success	7	1	0	1	9
Failure	14	2	1	0	17
Total	44	11	1	0	76

a Results only to 1936 in two cases and 1938 in one case.



Definitions of success and failure and methods of arriving at conclusions have already been described in a previous chapter, Purpose, Method, and Scope of Study. The preceding table measures the degree of success in accordance with the above-mentioned standards.

#### Correlation Between Success and Carrying Out Recommendations

In 45 of the cases, or 58 per cent, the agency contact was considered successful. In 12 per cent of the cases there was questionable success, that is, success for two years and then failure or success only after being released from a correctional institution. Seventeen of the cases, or 22 per cent, were considered to be failures. In six of the cases, or 8 per cent, the results were unknown.

TABLE XVI

#### SUCCESSFUL CASES IN RELATION TO COMPLIANCE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS

Rec.	B.P.	%	D.&N.	%	Phys.	%	Temp.	%
Carried out	19	40	7	58	6	67	7	86
Partially carried out	1	2	0	0	1	11	0	0
Not carried out	3	6	1	8	0	0	0	0
Total	23	43	8	66	7	78	7	86

a Results only to 1936 in two cases.



Table XVII shows that there is a definite correlation between success and the carrying out of recommendations. In each type of case the highest percentage of success is in the column showing the cases where the recommendations had been carried out. Although there are not enough cases to make this material infallible, this table seems to show that the temporary cases had the greatest percentage of success in 1935 with the physical cases coming next, the dependency and neglect cases coming third, and the behavior problem cases coming last.

Correlation Between Failure and Noncompliance with Recommendations

TABLE XVII

UNSUCCESSFUL 1935 LITTLE WANDERERS' HOME  
CONFERENCE CASES IN RELA-  
TION TO COMPLIANCE  
WITH RECOMMENDATIONS

Rec.	B.P.	%	D. & N.	%	Phys.	%	Temp.	%
C. O.	3	6	1	8	0	0	0	0
P. C. O.	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
N. C. O.	9	17	1	8	1	11	0	0
Total	14	27	2	16	1	11	0	0

a In one case results are only to 1938.

Although it does not show so well in this table because of the small number of cases, it can be seen, especially in the behavior problem group but also in the other groups, that there is a relationship between recommendations not carried out and failure. The largest percentage of failures (27 per cent) is in the behavior problem group with the next largest (16 per

the first time I have seen a specimen of the genus. It is a small tree, 10-12 m. high, with a trunk 15 cm. in diameter. The leaves are opposite, elliptic-lanceolate, 15-20 cm. long, 5-7 cm. wide, acute at the apex, obtuse at the base, entire, glabrous, dark green above, pale green below. The flowers are numerous, white, 5-petaled, 10 mm. in diameter,生于葉腋，或生于葉之先。花期在夏秋之交。果實球形，直徑約10 mm.，熟時紅色，味酸，可食。種子圓形，直徑約5 mm.，有白毛。根系發達，主根粗大，側根多而長。

cent) in the dependency and neglect group. The physical problem group has only 11 per cent failures, while the temporary group has no failures.

Perhaps a paragraph is needed here to explain cases which were successful even though the recommendations were not carried out. There are four such cases. In two of them the child was referred by an agency which had available the services of another psychiatrist. In one case the boy was thought to be homosexual and the Little Wanderers' Home psychiatrist recommended that his feminine interests be sublimated but not suppressed. The other psychiatrist recommended that the boy be discouraged in his feminine traits and encouraged to be manly. This agency feels that the boy is making progress and is convinced that his traits are not innate but due to a peculiar upbringing.

The other case is a boy whom the psychiatrist at the Little Wanderers' Home felt was not promising material, stating that as his Intelligence Quotient was too high for the School for Feeble-minded at Wrentham and that society had no adequate provision for a boy of his type. This agency was attempting in 1938 to give him a better outlet for his energies in play, music, and dancing and felt that his behavior had shown marked improvement at that time.

It was recommended that another boy be placed in a good foster home with psychiatric treatment. As it turned out, the parents would not consent to this, the boy returned home and

the first time in the history of the world, the  
whole of the human race has been gathered  
together in one place, and that is the  
present meeting of the World's Fair.  
The great nations of the world have  
gathered here to exhibit their products,  
and to show the progress they have made  
in the arts and sciences. The United States  
is represented by a large number of  
exhibits, including the latest  
inventions in agriculture, industry,  
and commerce. The exhibits  
of other countries are also very  
interesting, and show the  
great progress made by  
the different nations in  
the arts and sciences. The  
World's Fair is a great  
success, and will be remembered  
as one of the greatest  
events in the history of the world.

was committed to the Lyman School. After his release from Lyman there were good reports concerning him. He was doing well at home and at school and was a member of the Boy Scouts and Boys Safety Patrol.

In the other case which has already been cited, a trade school was recommended. Instead, he was committed to the Division of Child Guidance where he made a good adjustment.

There are four cases in which the recommendations were carried out, but the case turned out to be a failure.

In one case a hyperactive, destructive, disobedient boy of 10 was thought by the psychiatrist to have chances of becoming a criminal if not carefully watched. A foster home with adults only in the family and with kindness but a definite discipline was recommended. He adjusted well in a foster home for two years but later he became saucy and fresh, causing the foster mother to refuse to keep him. Now at a privately owned institution, the boy is considered lazy, indifferent, a bully, selfish, and a coward.

Another case was a girl of 17 who had often run away. The psychiatrist said that there was a possibility that this girl might become schizophrenic later and that no therapy would make her self-supporting. A convent school was recommended. This girl did not adjust to a convent or to the two institutions tried subsequently. In 1940 she was diagnosed as Psychopathic Personality without Psychosis. A family became very much interested in her and gave her a home and helped her to find a

the first time in the history of the world, the  
whole of the human race has been gathered  
together in one place, and that is the  
present meeting of the World's Fair.  
The great number of people here  
from all parts of the world, and the  
large amount of money spent by them,  
will be a great stimulus to the  
development of the country, and will  
help to bring about a new era of  
prosperity and happiness for all.  
The United States is a great  
country, and it is the duty of every  
American to do his best to help  
in making it even greater.  
The World's Fair is a great  
success, and it is a great honor  
for the United States to have  
such a fair in our country.

job. She complained of ill health and finally left this family. She does not get along with people and cannot seem to stay in one place over a period of time.

Another 17-year-old girl was referred for stealing. A wage home was recommended for this girl. She was deceitful in this home, using her mother's illness as an excuse to get time off. Finally she had an illegitimate child. The agency reporting felt that she was too unstable to bring up a child successfully.

A 12-year-old girl was referred for reasons of dependency. The psychiatrist felt that she would become a sex problem if not properly treated. The conference recommended a boarding school for this girl. She did not like boarding school life. After two years foster placement was tried. While in a foster home she got into trouble with some boys and was finally committed to Girls' Industrial School at Lancaster where she is at the present time.

#### Relationship Between Age and Success

TABLE XVIII

#### CASES WHERE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE CARRIED OUT

#### CLASSIFIED BY AGE AND SUCCESS

Age	Cases Where Recommendations Carried Out	Successful Cases Where Recommendations Carried Out	% of Successful Cases Where Recommendations Carried Out
1-4	6	6	100
5-8	11	10	91
9-12	16	13	81
13-16	15	10	67
17-20	2	1	50
Total	50	40	

and the first time I have seen it. It is a very  
handsome tree, and I hope to get some seeds  
from it. The leaves are large and deeply lobed,  
the flowers are white and the fruit is round.  
The bark is smooth and greyish brown.  
The trunk is straight and about 10 inches  
in diameter at the base. The wood is  
very hard and heavy. The roots are  
large and spreading. The tree is  
about 20 feet high and 15 feet wide.  
The leaves are large and deeply lobed,  
the flowers are white and the fruit is round.  
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very hard and heavy. The roots are  
large and spreading. The tree is  
about 20 feet high and 15 feet wide.

TABLE XIX

1935 CONFERENCE CASES  
CLASSIFIED BY AGE AND SUCCESS

Age	Total Cases	Total Successful Cases	% of Success
1-4	7	6	86
5-8	17	11	65
9-12	29	15	52
13-16	21	11	52
17-20	3	1	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>44</b>	

Table XVIII and XIX show that as the age of the children increases there is a slight tendency for success to decrease. Although in Table XXII there is no percentage age drop in the 13-16 age group, it is felt that with a larger number of cases this drop might occur. To bear this out, Table XXI, which the writer considers more reliable, as it only considers cases where the recommendations were carried out, shows a decrease in this age group.

Relationship Between Sex and Success

TABLE XX

CASES WHERE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE CARRIED OUT  
CLASSIFIED BY SEX AND SUCCESS

Sex	Cases Where Recommendations Carried Out	Successful Cases Where Recommendations Carried Out	% of Successful Recommendations Carried Out
Boys	11	8	73
Girls	16	12	75

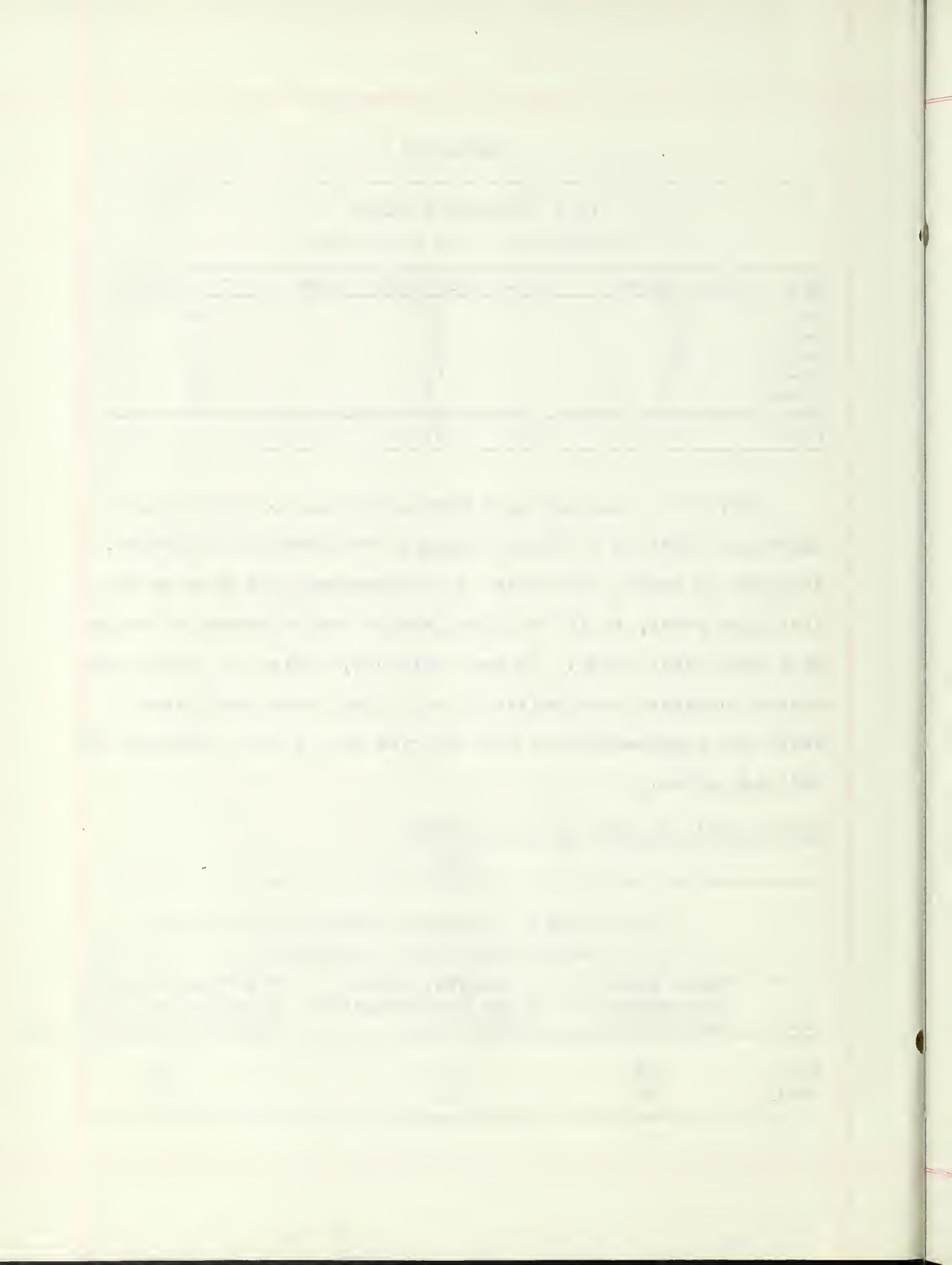


TABLE XXI

1935 LITTLE WANDERERS' HOME CASES  
CLASSIFIED BY SEX AND  
SUCCESS

Sex	Total Number of Children	Total Success- ful Cases	% of Success
Boys	41	11	27
Girls	36	13	36

These two tables show that girls have a slightly larger degree of success than boys. This is in spite of the fact that girls have a higher mean age, the largest number of adolescents and the largest number in the behavior problem group. One wonders whether the scarcity of men social workers for boys at this time has anything to do with this.

TABLE XXII

1935 LITTLE WANDERERS' HOME CASES  
CLASSIFIED BY ILLEGITIMACY AND  
SUCCESS

Status of Birth	Total Number of Cases	Number of Successes	% of Successes
Illegitimate Children	15	19	60
Legitimate Children	62	45	70

There is a slight tendency for the legitimate cases to show a more favorable outcome than the illegitimate cases in this study.



Improvement of Original Problem

TABLE XXIII

## BEHAVIOR PROBLEM CASES

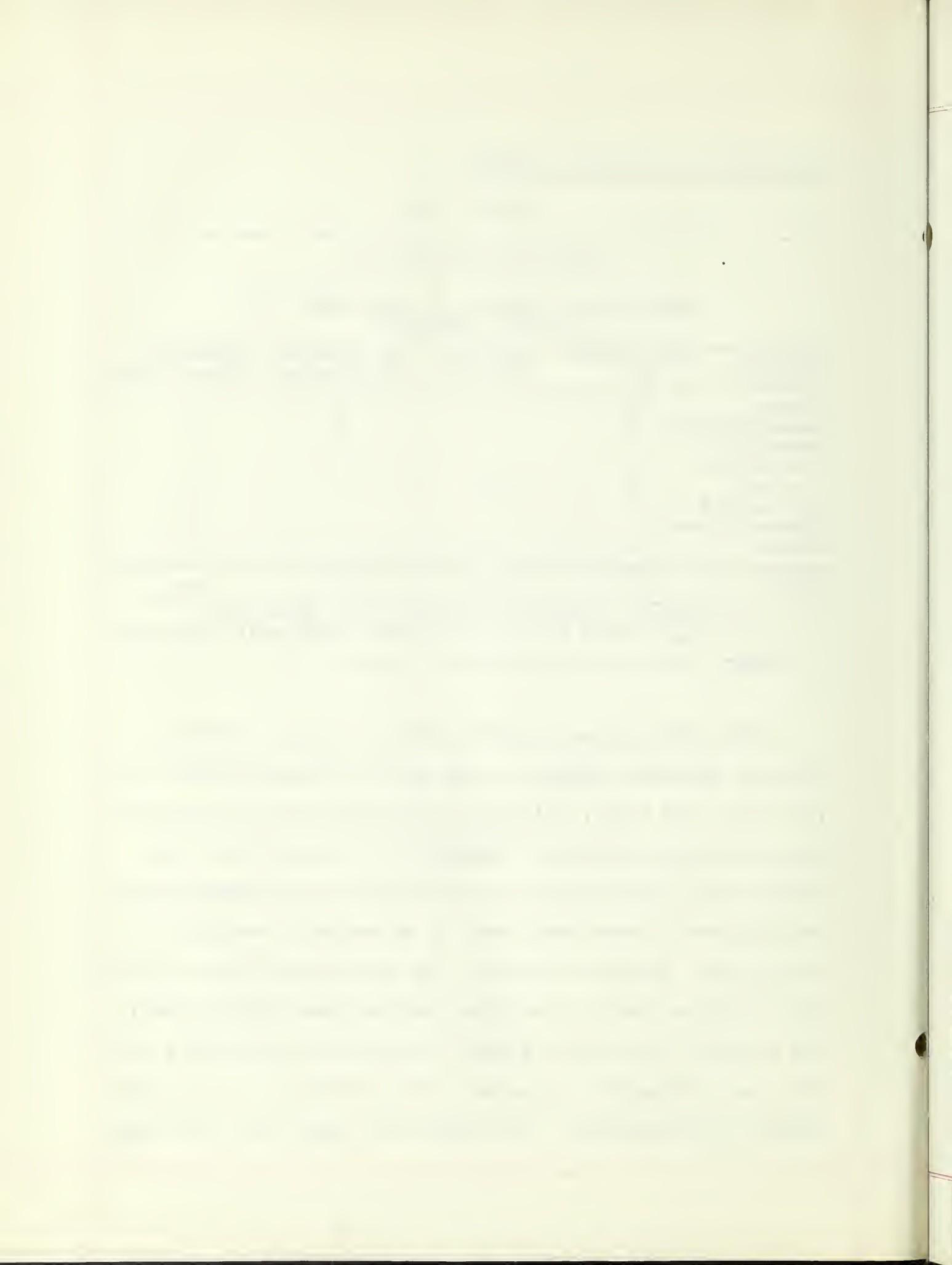
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO IMPROVEMENT OF  
ORIGINAL PROBLEM<sup>a</sup>

Original Problem	Not Improved in L.W.H.	Improved in L.W.H.	Not Improved 5 Yrs. Later	Improved 5 Yrs. Later
Truancy	3	2	3	1
Unmanageability	3	4	2	4
Immorality	1	2	2	4
Stealing and lying	4	10	6	8
Poor habits	3	7	1	9
Abnormal fears	0	4	1	3
Others	0	3	0	3
Total	14	32	15	29

a 2 cases - results not known after five years.

2 cases were not in the Little Wanderers' Home study group.

Table XXIII shows that practically the same number of original problems improved in the Home as improved after five years and vice versa. Figuring out percentages in the group whose original problem had improved five years later, the writer found that the three cases in the miscellaneous group had improved. These were cases of effeminacy, reading difficulty, and slowness in work. The group which showed improvement in 90 per cent of the cases was the poor habits group; the abnormal fears group showed 75 per cent improvement; and both the unmanageable group and the stealing and lying group showed 57% improvement. The immorality group had 67 per cent



failure. However, the small number of cases in this group does not make this material reliable.

#### Relationship Between Intelligence Quotient and Success

TABLE XXIV

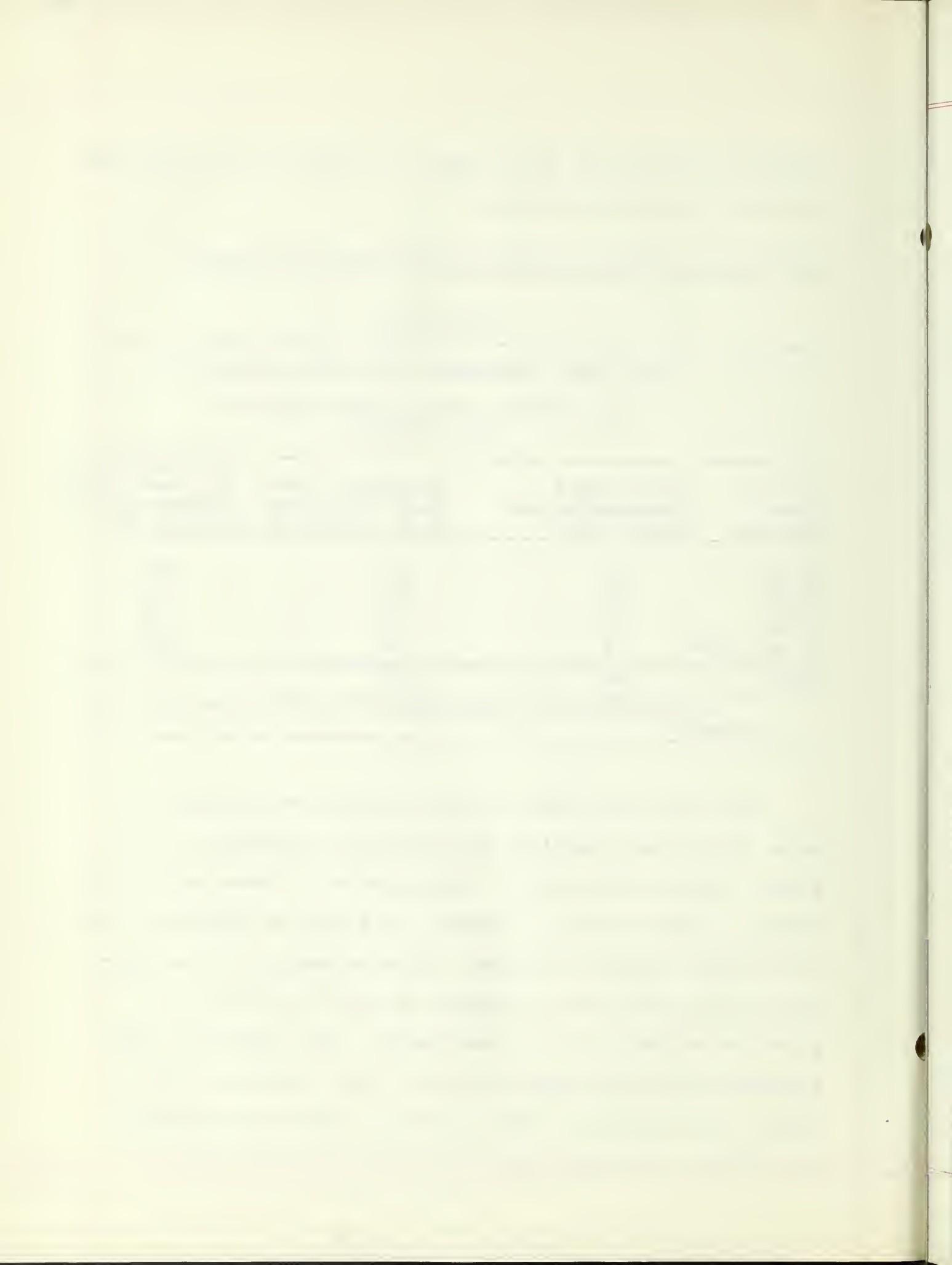
CASES WHERE RECOMMENDATIONS WERE CARRIED OUT

CLASSIFIED BY INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENT  
AND SUCCESS<sup>a</sup>

Intelli- gence Quotient	Cases Where Recommenda- tions Carried Out	Successful Cases Where Recommen- dations Carried Out	% of Success- ful Cases Where Recommendations Carried Out
111 up	1	1	100
91-110	28	23	82
81-90	12	3	25
71-80	6	2	33
70 and below	2	2	100
Total	49	31	

a Cases where no intelligence test was given were not recorded.

There does not seem to be any definite relationship between Intelligence Quotient and successful adjustment in this study. In all probability a larger number of cases would show something more definite. However, it should be remembered that Intelligence Quotient is taken into consideration while planning for the child and an attempt is made to put him in a situation suitable to his intelligence. The relatively high percentage of feeble-minded successes, for instance, is accounted for by the fact that a case is considered successful if a child is getting along well in an institution for



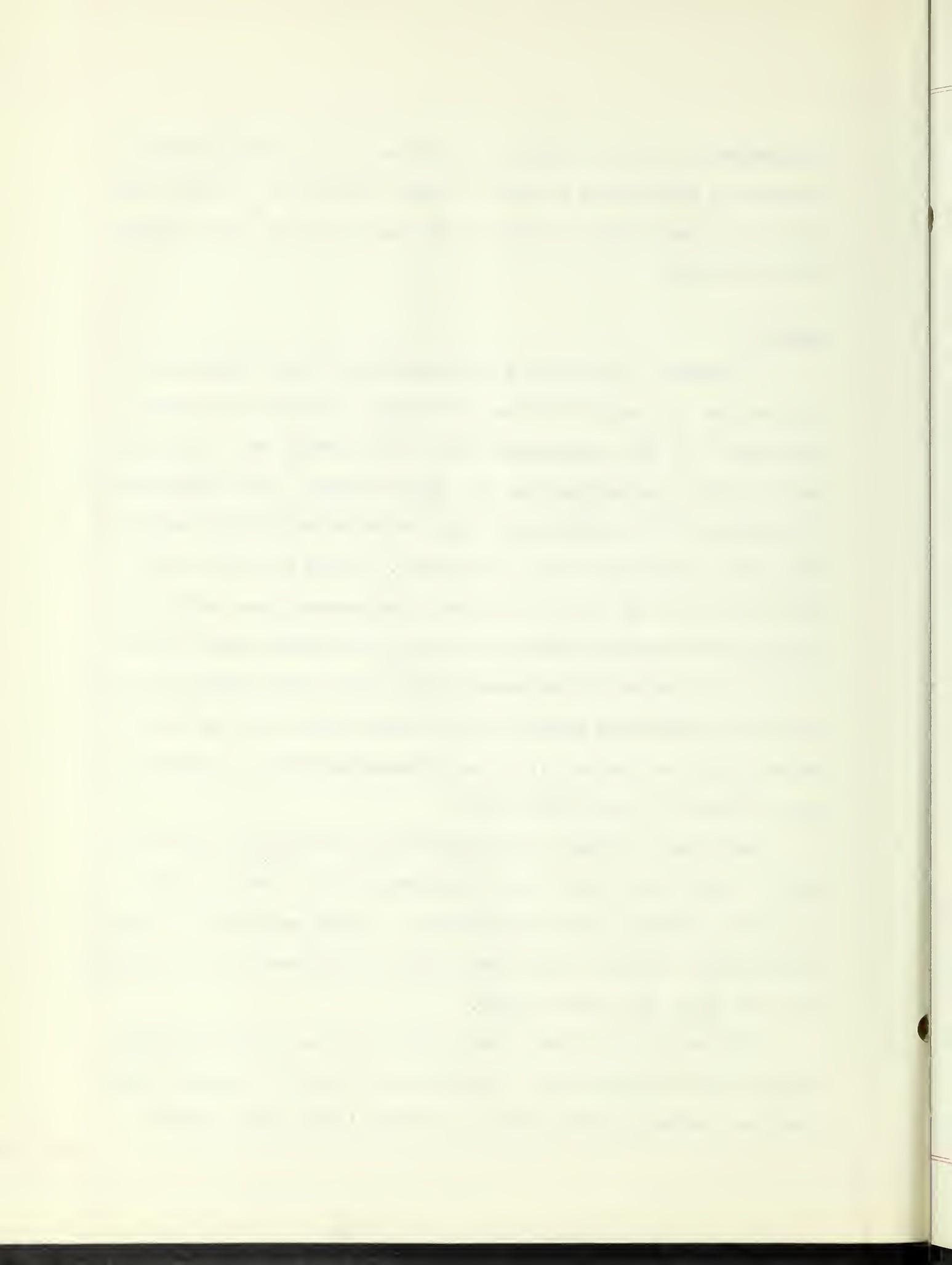
feebleminded. It is difficult, however, to explain why the borderline group seem to have a higher degree of success than the dull normal group except on the basis of the small number of cases used.

### Summary

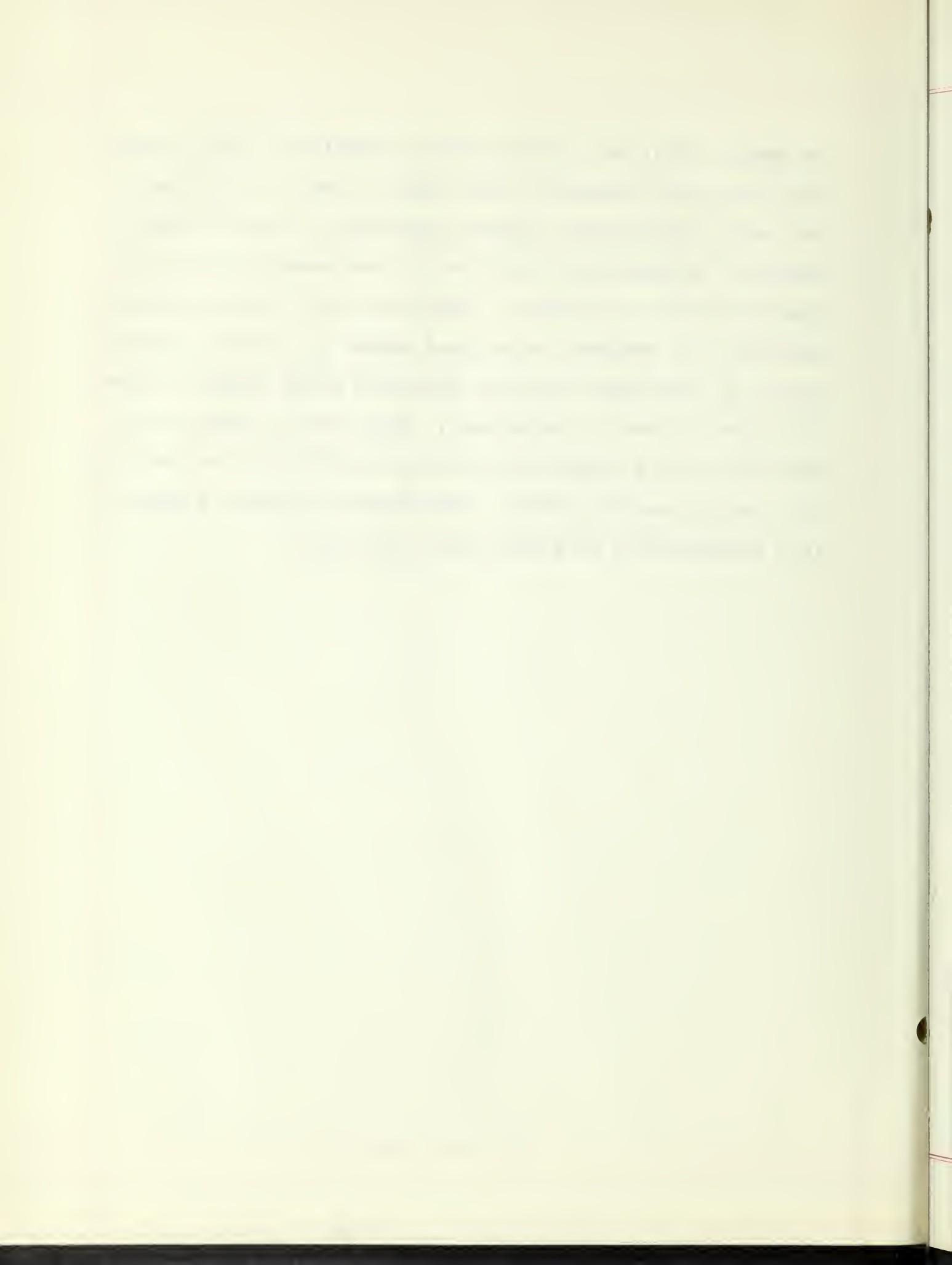
In summary, conference recommendations were completely carried out in only 50 of the 77 cases. In five additional cases part of the recommendations were carried out. This is not as high a percentage as one might expect. An examination of reasons for noncompliance with recommendations may help in the understanding of this low figure. Table XVI shows that most often (in 13 out of 20 cases) recommendations were not carried out because parents refused to cooperate and that in 7 out of 20 cases the recommendations were not carried out because the referring agency did not carry them out, either because it did not agree with the recommendations or because it was not able to carry them out.

The agency contact was considered successful in 58 per cent of the cases and in an additional 12 per cent of the cases the success was questionable. A good majority of these questionable success cases were cases which went along smoothly for two years and then failed.

Tables in this study show that there is a relationship between age and success. A greater per cent of younger children are helped by the Little Wanderers' Home than older



children. Also, more girls seemed to benefit by their contact with the Little wanderers' Home than did boys. There was a very small relationship between legitimacy of the child and success. In examining the degree of improvement in the original problems of children, it was found that the poor habits group and the abnormal fears group seemed to show the highest degree of improvement and the immorality group seemed to show the lowest degree of improvement. There did not seem to be any relationship between Intelligence Quotient and success in this study, possibly because Intelligence Quotient is taken into consideration in planning for the child.



## CHAPTER V

### TYPICAL CASES

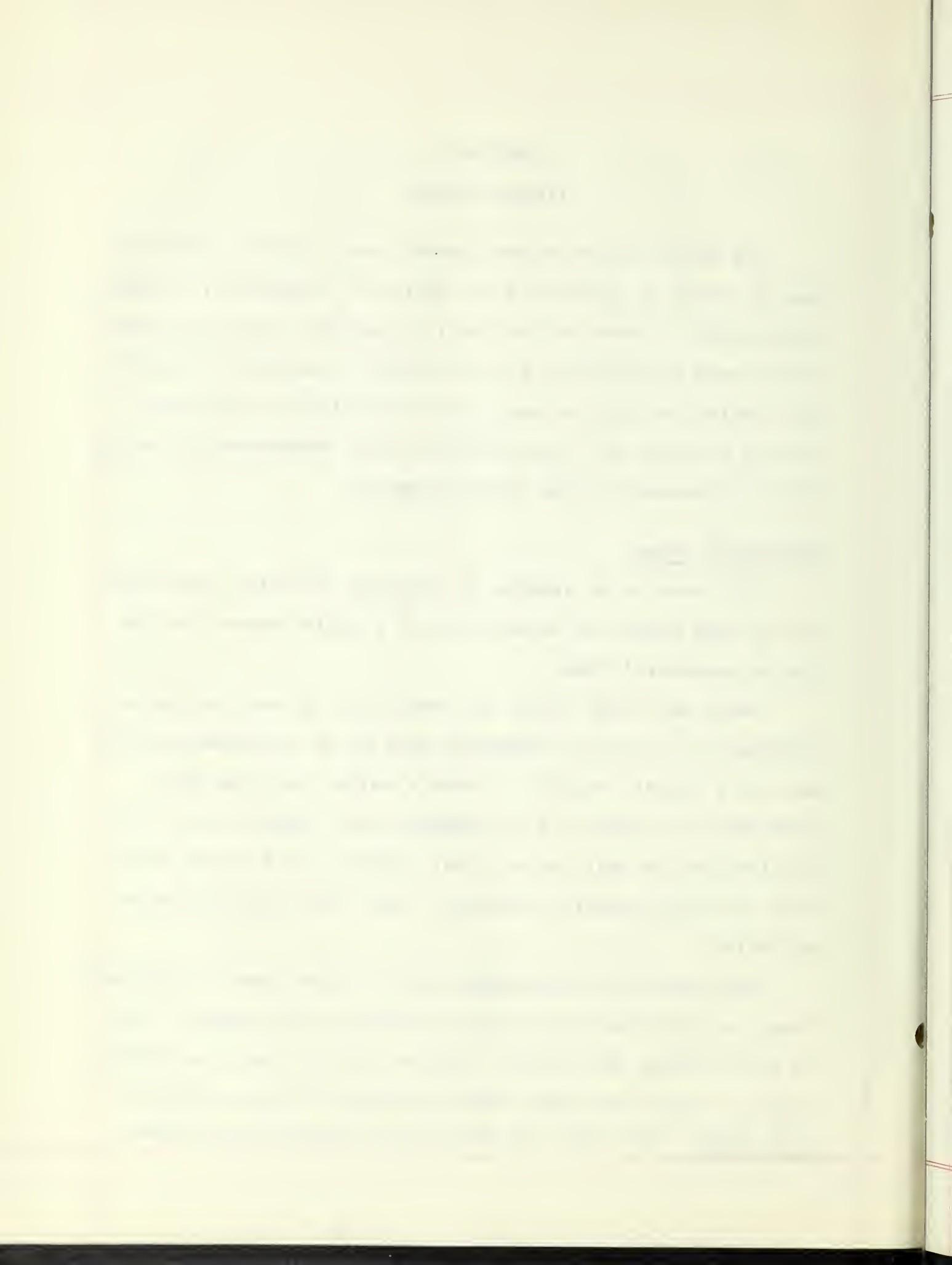
The author has selected typical cases from the 1935 records in order to illustrate the different categories, success, questionable success, and failure, to make the statistical material have more meaning for the reader by showing the dynamics behind the figures and to help to bring out more convincing evidence for the conclusions and recommendations which will be discussed in the closing chapter.

#### Successful Cases

This case is an example of the type of social work which can be done under the supervision of a social worker at the Little Wanderers' Home.

Janet was seven years, one month old at the time she was referred to the Little Wanderers Home by an outpatient department of a mental hospital. Janet's mother had died when Janet was in infancy. Her stepmother had brought her to the hospital as she spit on the other children, had gas at meal-time, and wet herself frequently. She talked only in monosyllables.

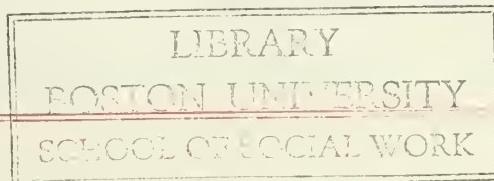
The conference recommendations for Janet were as follows: "Keep the child here for another month or even longer. Try to avoid having her go here. Strive for the family's cooperation in a trial at foster family placement locating this so that either this clinic or that of the hospital may follow developments."

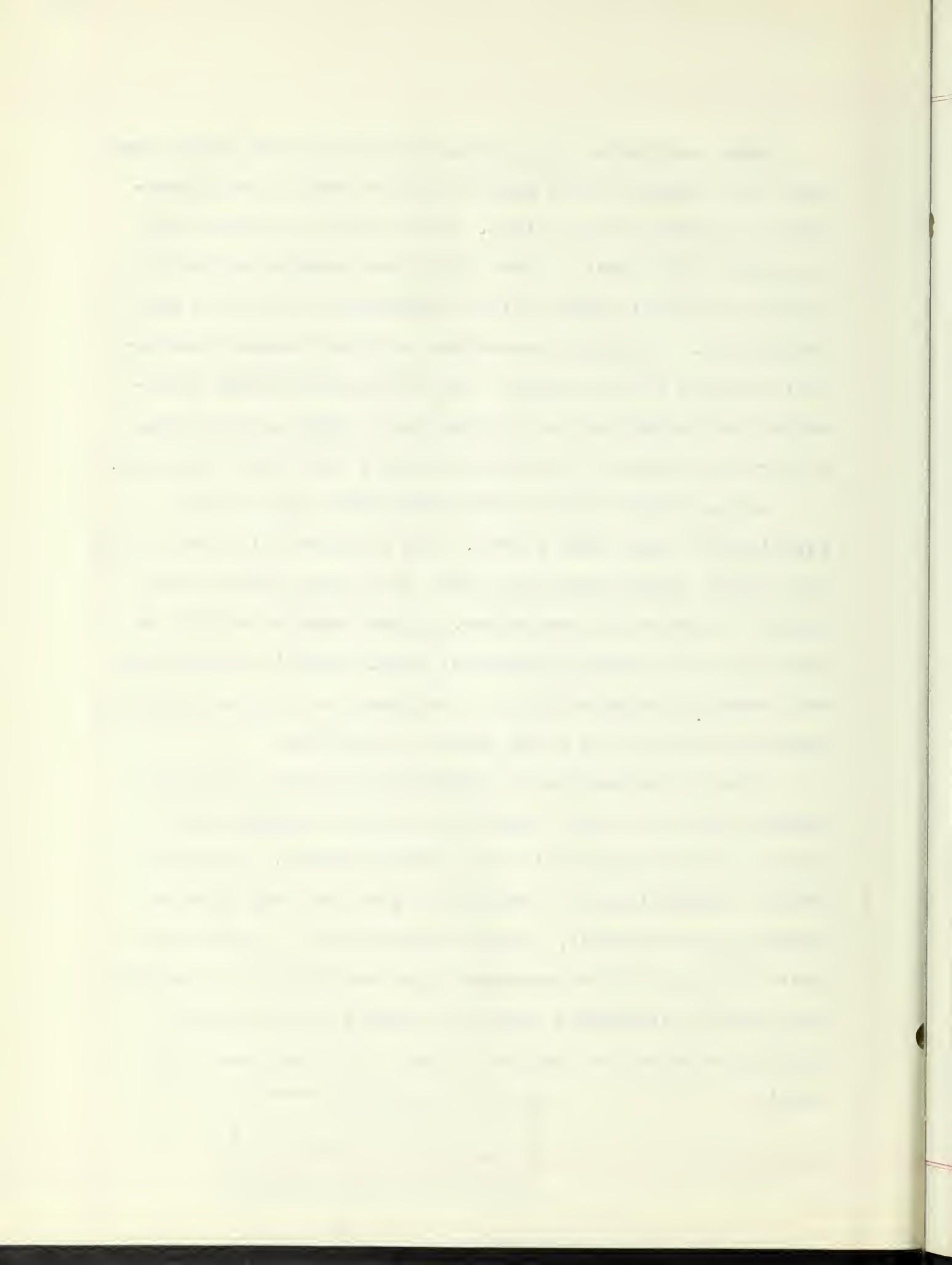


Janet was placed in a foster home at the end of the month where she remained three months and then went to her grandmother presumably for a visit. This visit has turned into a permanent placement. These plans were carried out only after considerable negotiations between LWH and parents and grandmother. Although grandmother and Janet seemed passionately anxious to be together, the bitterness between grandmother and parents was so extreme that father was unwilling at first to consent to anything except foster home placement.

During Janet's stay in the foster home she saw the psychiatrist four times a week. She adjusted fairly well with this foster family whom she liked, but always insisted she wished to live with grandmother. After repeated efforts on the part of the Little Wanderers' home, father's cooperation was gradually gained--first, to let Janet be visited by grandmother and finally to allow Janet to visit her.

Janet's placement with grandmother has been successful, judging from her school record, her own and grandmother's reports to the psychiatrist and social workers. Her speech defect (stammering) has practically gone, and she appears quieter, more friendly, and more responsive. It seems probable that the Little Wanderers' home was helpful in negotiating Janet's placements away from parents since they and grandmother were too hostile to come to any agreements directly.





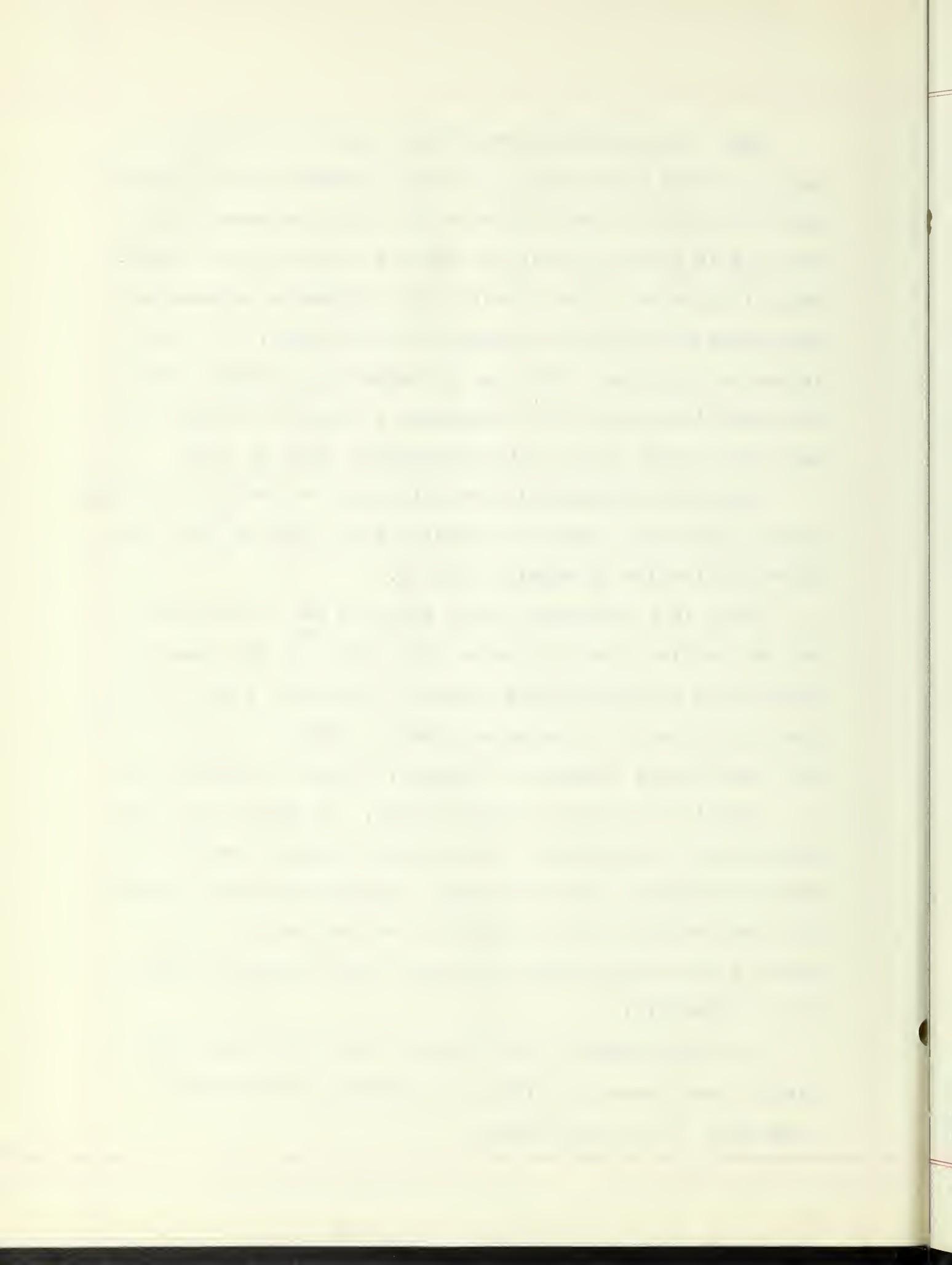
Here, the Little Wanderers' Home was able not only to help the child temporarily by foster placement near a psychiatric clinic but it was also able to arrange permanently for the child's future so that in 1940 the case could be closed. This illustrates a case in which the conference recommendations were carried out and which was successful. It also serves to show how a child may be helped by placement away from unsatisfactory home conditions, a situation typical of many cases known to the Little Wanderers' Home in 1935.

The second successful case which will be briefly discussed in this paper will serve to illustrate the type of work done by an Institution in helping a child.

Betty is a Protestant white girl who was 15 years old and in the first year of Junior High School at the time of referral by a child placing agency. During the year she had been in the care of this agency she had failed to adjust in two foster homes because of stealing, lying, and immorality.

Betty's father was a hard drinker. In 1935 he had been examined by a psychiatrist who pictured him as reverting to childish emotional reactions and as giving sufficient reasons for commitment to a State Hospital for the Insane. Her mother has been described as nervous, high strung and subject to hysteria.

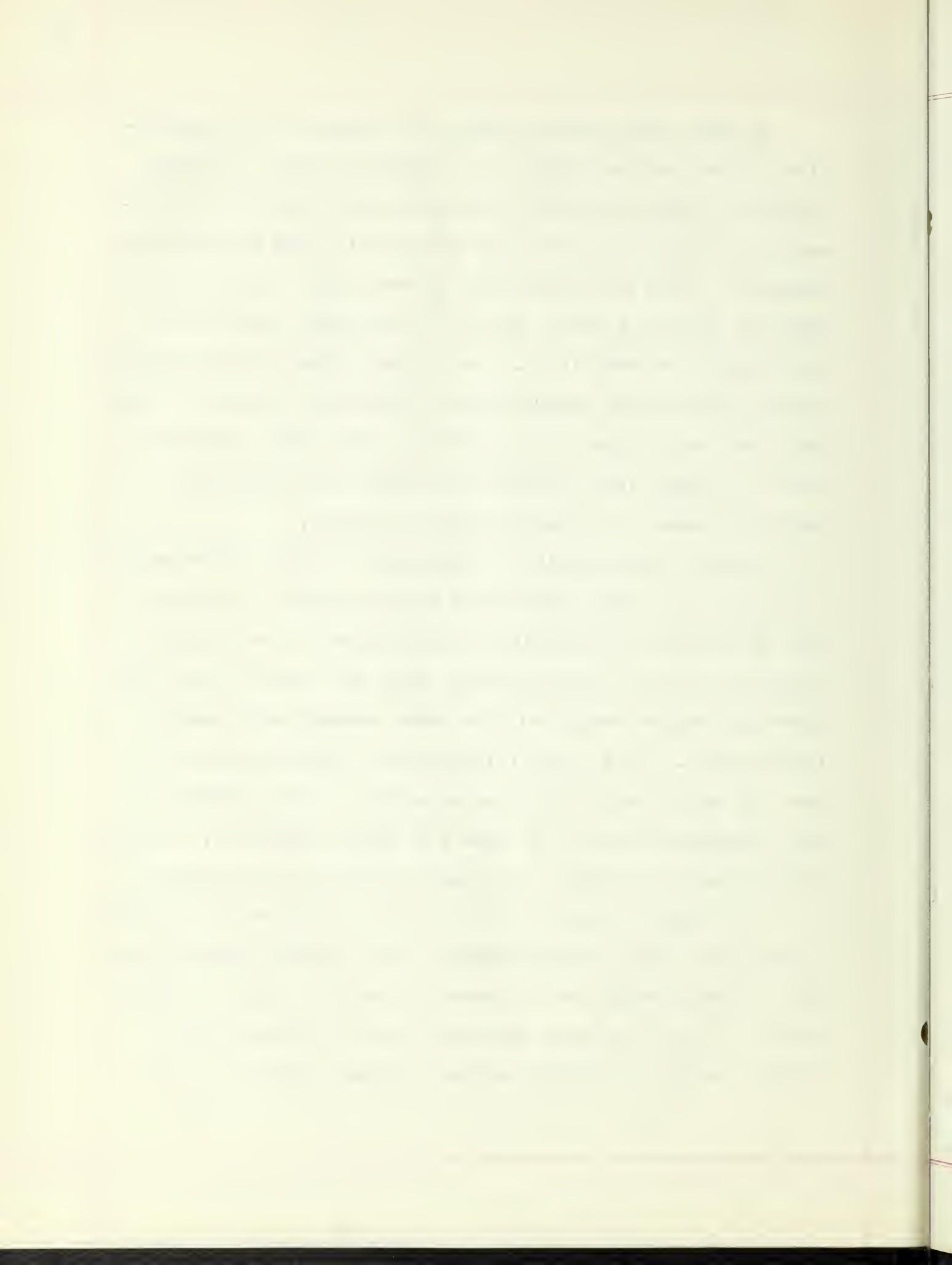
As it was thought that this girl would not easily adjust to open community life, the conference recommended commitment to an Institution.



In 1935 Betty was very much of a problem in an institution, as she was untruthful, an incessant talker, inclined to cause trouble among the other girls and resentful of correction. She had many ups and downs until 1940 when she was placed in a very good wage home in New Haven. On June 15, 1940 she married a quiet, stable, intelligent young man of good family and reputation. She is very proud of her husband and her home and is interested in helping her husband to buy their own home. They are expecting a baby next summer and Betty, although still somewhat emotional and very self-centered, seems to be quite happily adjusted.

In this case the Little Wanderers' Home was instrumental in getting this girl from foster homes where she had made poor adjustments into an institution which in the long run served to keep her out of trouble with the law until she was older and mature enough to have shown marked improvements in character. This is an illustration of another type of case, of which there are other examples in 1935, helped by the recommendations at the Home for Little Wanderers. Original problems of stealing and lying had entirely disappeared.

The cases of questionable success seem quite challenging as they show room for improvement. The children seem to adjust satisfactorily for two years or more and then for some reason all the good that has been done is lost and the child's original symptoms return or others develop.



### Two cases of questionable success

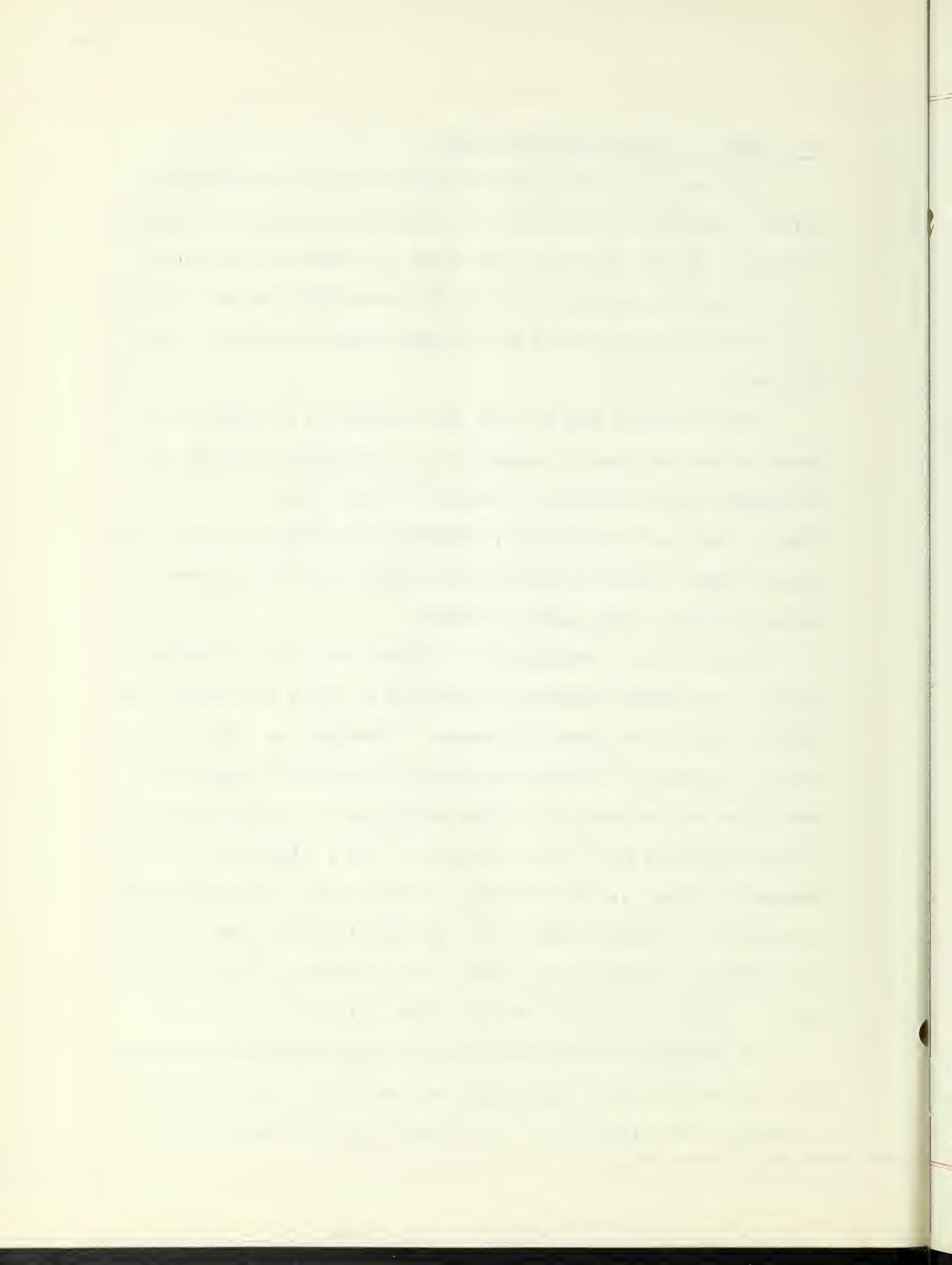
John was a fourteen year old boy who was referred by a friend because he was queer and unusually interested in electricity. He had run away from home on several occasions.

It was recommended by the conference that he be referred to a branch office of the New England Home for foster home placement.

This was done and the boy was placed in a foster home where he was allowed to share all the responsibilities and advantages as if he were a member of the family. At this time he mingled with the boys instead of staying apart. He seemed happy and well-adjusted and ambitious to get ahead in school but was still lazy at times.

After he had completed the second year in high school, however, he became uneasy and decided to join the army. In August 1939 he was sent to Panama. However, he could not stand "roughing it" in the southern climate and developed headaches and pains in his side which caused him eventually to be committed to a State Hospital with a diagnosis of Daementia Praecox. The hospital reports that he constantly complains of feeling weak. He is mentally clear and talks and answers questions well but it is doubtful if he would be able to compete with others and make a living.

In 1935 the psychiatrist at the Little wanderers' Home had stated that this boy would not be able to adjust well in a complicated situation. If it had been recommended that a



psychiatrist be consulted before this boy be allowed to go in a complicated situation, this disaster might have been avoided. But it is easy to say what should have been done after the situation is over and it may be that the psychiatrist, seeing the boy in 1935, could not have anticipated this disaster. Psychiatric help could have been recommended for this boy but, because of the lack of available psychiatric facilities in his state, a recommendation of this type would probably prove useless. However, it might have served to impress the social worker with the dangers inherent in this boy's personality. At any rate this case shows the need of reconsideration of this boy by the psychiatrist at critical times in his career.

Richard was a twelve year old boy who had been referred by a child placing agency for enuresis and soiling. He had been living with his mother, who was feeble-minded and immoral, and a stepfather.

After a period of study at the New England Home for Little Wanderers the conference recommended foster family placement with close and understanding visitation.

Richard was placed in the home of a very understanding foster mother and for two years seemed to get along very well. His enuresis was better, his school work picked up and an improvement was noticed in this boy's whole attitude. In November 1937, however, he began getting into difficulty. He became unmanageable in the home and at school and also did some petty stealing. From this time on he was in

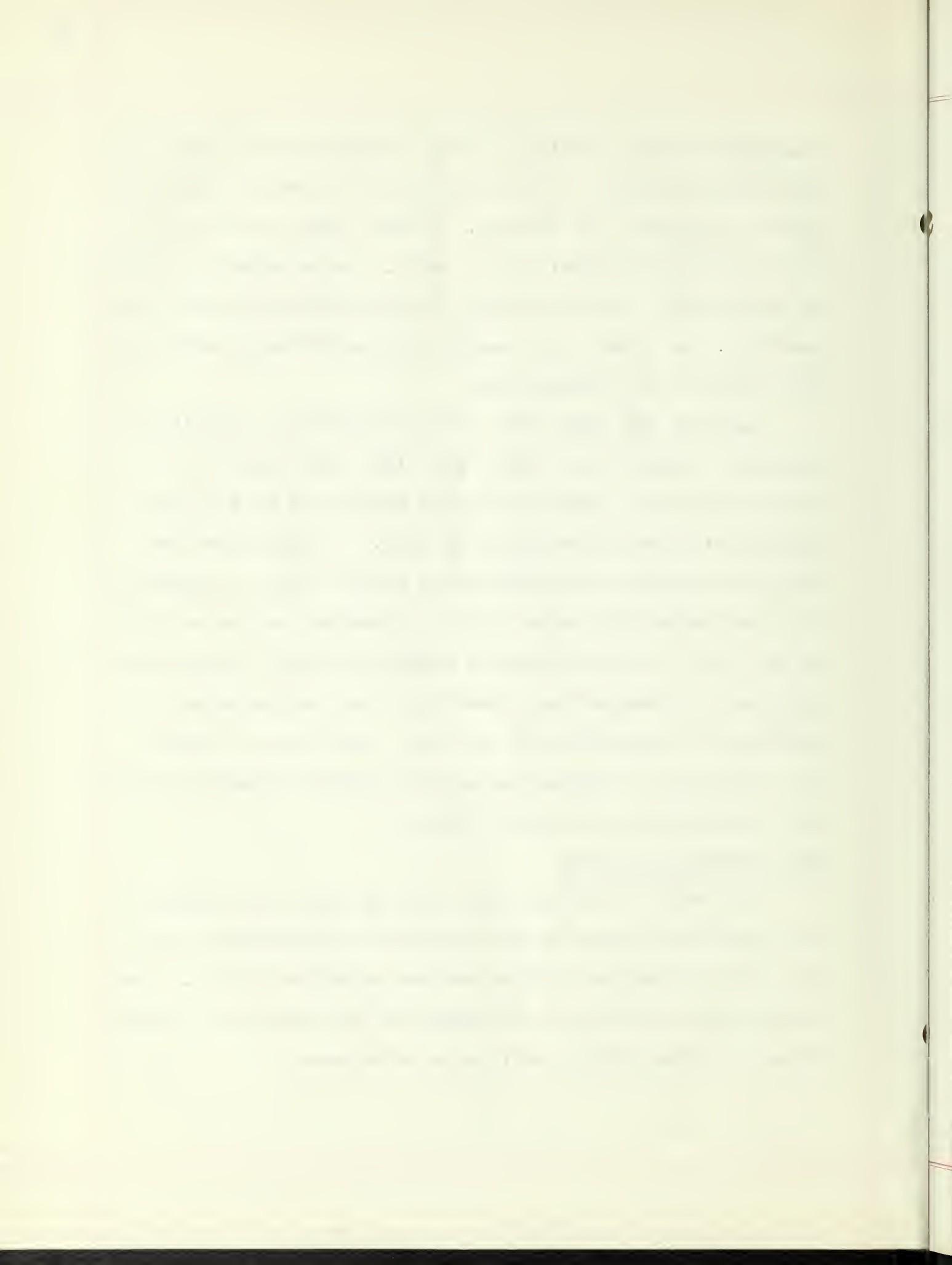


constant trouble. He left school, started school again and was finally expelled. He ran away and in 1940 was picked up by the Travelers' Aid Society. At this time he was sent to State Industrial School in his state. He is adjusting poorly at this school, not conforming to rules, being lazy and untruthful. He should have earned at least fifteen merits by this time but has earned none.

Had this boy been under the supervision of the Little Wanderers' Home at the time of his first difficulties, he would have in all probability been readmitted to the Little Wanderers' Home and restudied in 1937. It might have been possible through a reconsideration of his case in conference to have averted his later trouble. However, as the case was in the care of an out-of-state agency, possibly the expense involved in transporting Richard and the time expended discouraged the reapplication for care. This shows, however, the importance of impressing on the referring agency the need for a restudy when reversals occur.

#### Two Unsuccessful Cases

Vera was a seven year old child who had been referred by a hospital because of her restless and changeable moods, her late walking and talking and her excessive crying. The child would nod her head for hours in the morning and sometimes cry from morning until late afternoon.

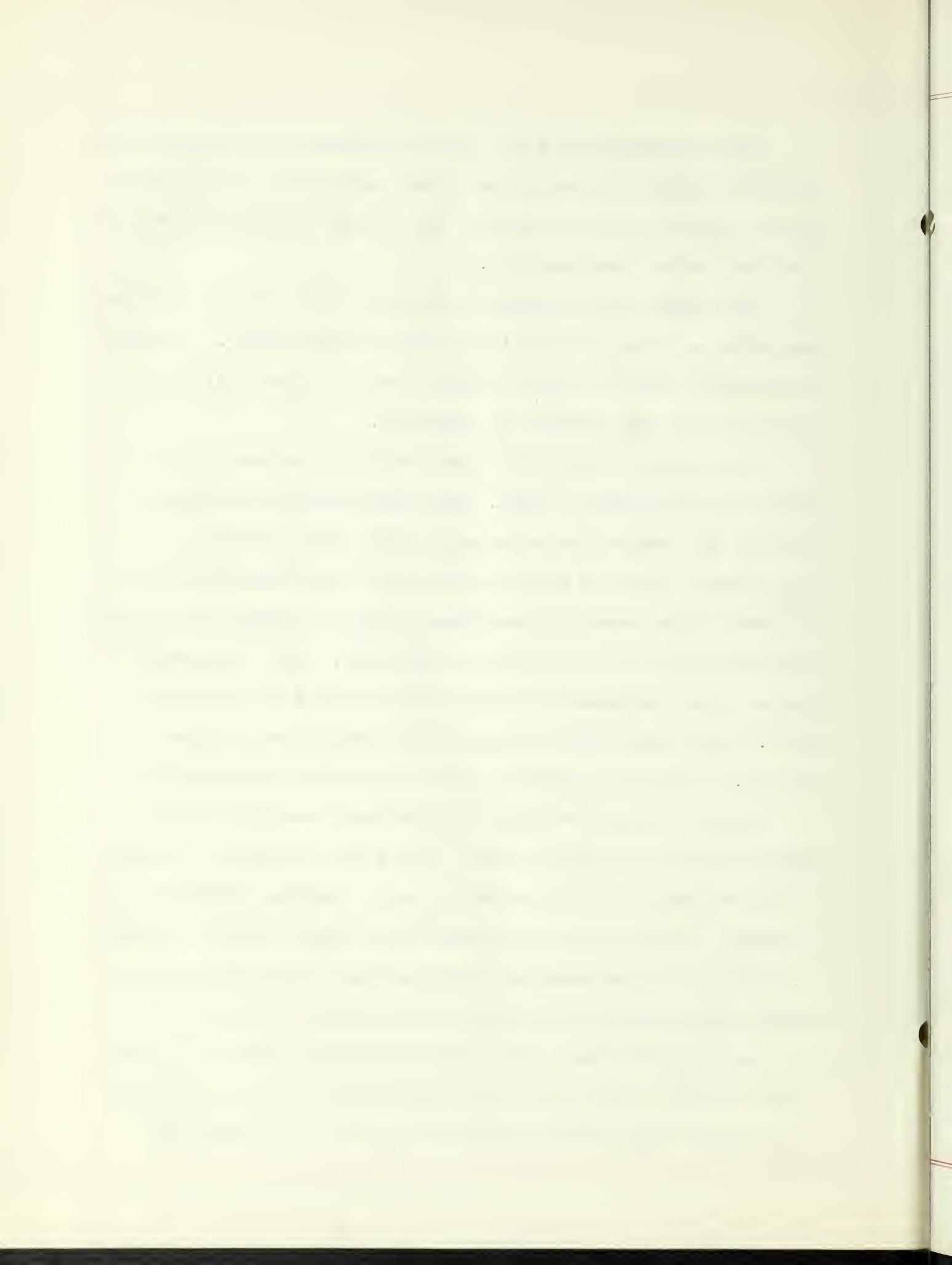


The psychiatrist at the Little Wanderers' Home questioned endocrine imbalance and spoke of her anxiety as shown in her playing out of sex phantasies. She seemed disturbed over the lies her mother had told her.

The conference recommended keeping the child at the Home and later getting a metabolism study for the child. It also recommended that the mother should be kept from visiting the child for as long periods as possible.

The mother refused to allow the child to stay at the Home for any length of time. She said that her religion forbade the separation of parents from their children. At the present time the child is at home. She sleeps until 11 o'clock in the morning, sometimes later. Her head fills with blood and her feet are cold at this time. She only goes to school when she awakes in time and then only in the afternoon. She steals small things, then tells about it and laughs. The family worship this child and overprotect her.

After leaving the Little Wanderers' Home this child went home with no supervision. There was no further contact with the hospital which referred her. Perhaps visitation by a social worker might have helped the mother in her dealings with the child and eventually the social worker might have helped the mother to renew her contact with the hospital. At least a metabolism study could have been obtained. Perhaps a yearly visit could have been made by a social worker to see how things were going and to see if the mother's

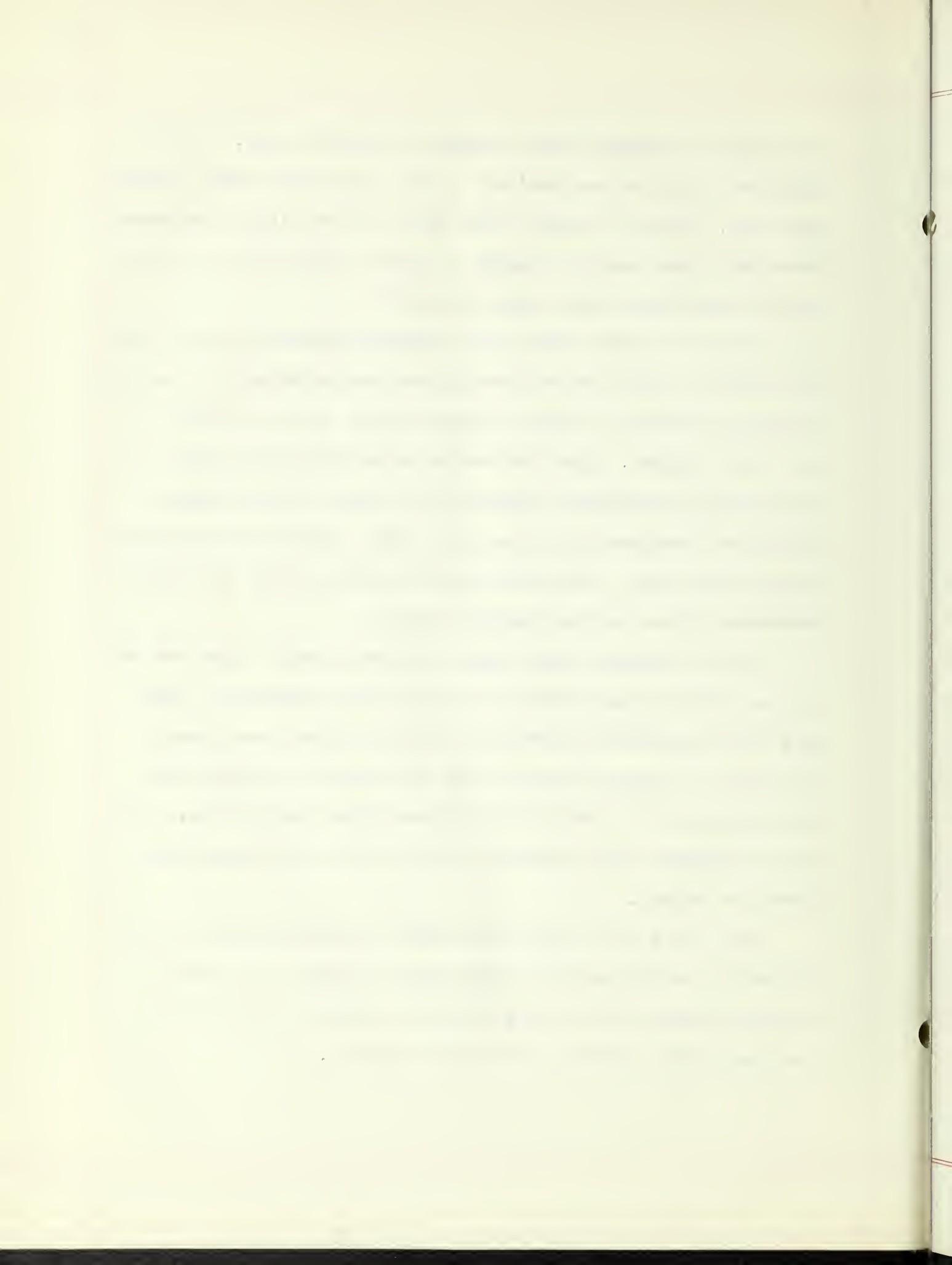


attitude had changed about sending the child away. At any rate, when the mother decided to take the child home, nothing was done. Would a second conference at the Little Wanderers' Home have been able to suggest a second alternative to this mother which might have been helpful?

Another failure where the recommendations were not carried out was the case of Jennie, who was referred by a mental hospital because of night terrors dating to an accident of two years before. The conference recommended placement by the Catholic Charitable Bureau for a year but the family would not consider this plan. In 1935 Jennie was discharged to her own home. There has been no contact with the Little Wanderers' Home or the hospital since.

At the present time Jennie is more nervous than she was at the time of her referral to the Little Wanderers' Home. She still has hand tremors and she gets along very poorly in school. She will not go near the Home for Little Wanderers as she is afraid she will be taken there again. She is disobedient and stubborn and will not take suggestions from her mother.

This is a case which the author feels might have been helped by social service supervision at home. At least, a social worker could have shown the mother the value of continuing her contacts with the hospital.

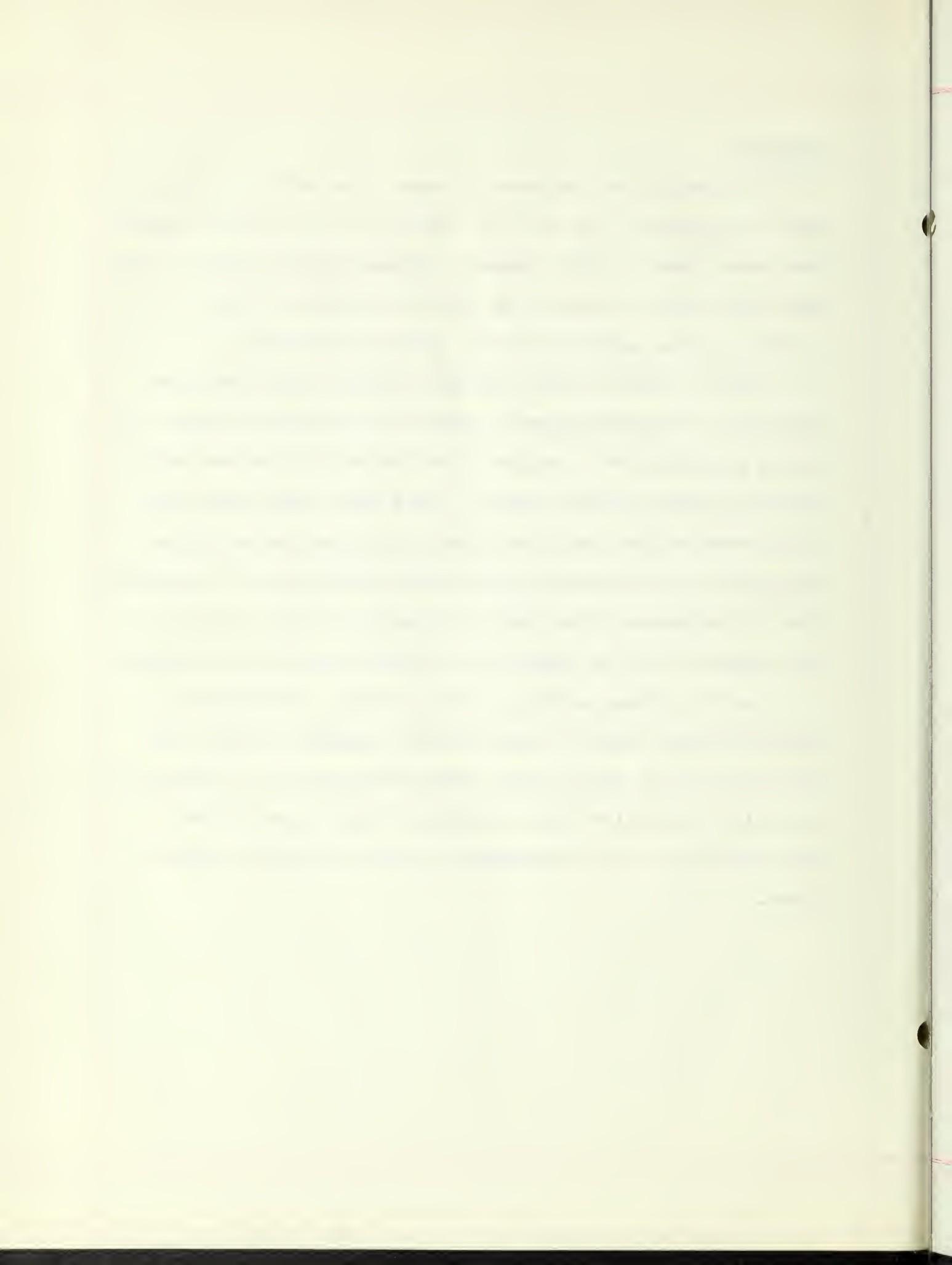


### Summary

In summary, two successful cases, one carried out by the Little Wanderers' Home and one carried out by another agency have been cited in this chapter. These show the value of the work which can be done by the Little Wanderers' Home both as a child placing agency and as a diagnostic clinic.

The two cases of questionable success described here represent a relatively small number of cases which seem to be making progress for a period of two years or more but which suddenly change for the worse. The author feels that something constructive could be done about these cases by impressing on the referring agency the necessity for reconsideration in conference when there is trouble or by referral to some psychiatrist or psychiatric clinic when help is needed.

The two cases, similar to many others, in which the recommendations were not carried out, suggest either a reconsideration of these cases when parents refuse to cooperate or social visitation for a period of time to see if some help other than that recommended by the conference could be given.



## CHAPTER VI

### RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

In considering the success figures which will be quoted below it must be remembered that these percentages consider only help given the child by the Little Wanderers' Home. In reality there are several other factors which should be considered in forming an evaluation of the work of the agency. First, it must be remembered also that in some cases, which were not successful, a service was rendered to the agency by diagnosing the case and enabling the referring agency to decide whether or not this was a case to invest money in or whether this was a case to refer to a public agency or institution. The case cited on page 52 is an illustration of this. Then an additional service is rendered to society by recommending the placement of difficult children in institutions, for although the children may cause trouble in the institution, at least they are not stealing or damaging property. The writer has in mind now the case of a defective epileptic who is not adjusting well in an institution for defective epileptics but who probably would make an equally poor adjustment in society, considering her poor physical condition and low Intelligence Quotient.

The Gluecks made a statement about the clinic-court approach which seems also to apply to the diagnostic clinic of the Little Wanderers' Home.<sup>19</sup>

19 Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck, op. cit., p. 236.

the same time, the number of the  
population of the United States  
is increasing rapidly, and the  
number of the slaves is also  
increasing rapidly, so that  
the slaves will soon be  
more numerous than the  
free colored people,  
and the slaves will  
soon be more numerous  
than the white population.  
The slaves are  
now more numerous  
than the free colored  
people, and the slaves  
will soon be more  
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An appraisal of the value of the clinic-juvenile court approach to treatment of delinquents cannot depend solely on the test of post-treatment recidivism. A physician who makes a thoroughgoing diagnosis and carries out an intelligent program of treatment is not judged exclusively by the percentages of his patients who fail to recover. For, in the first place, the scientific and sympathetic attitude with which he approaches his problem in itself is a valuable thing and secondly there are forces operative in many cases which are as yet beyond human control.

This brings out the scientific value of an agency of this kind, which after study over a period of years is able to learn by experience and formulate definite theories and techniques of treatment.

#### Conclusions

After this short introduction, the conclusions of this study will be enumerated briefly:

1. The agency contact was considered successful in 58<sup>per</sup> cent of the cases.
2. In 12 per cent of the cases there was questionable success.
3. The agency contact was considered unsuccessful in 22 per cent of the cases.
4. Recommendations were carried out in fifty of the seventy-seven cases.
5. In five cases recommendations were partially carried out.
6. Recommendations were not carried out in twenty cases.
7. Reasons for noncompliance with recommendations were as follows:
  - a. Parents not cooperative 13 cases
  - b. Agency did not carry out 7 cases

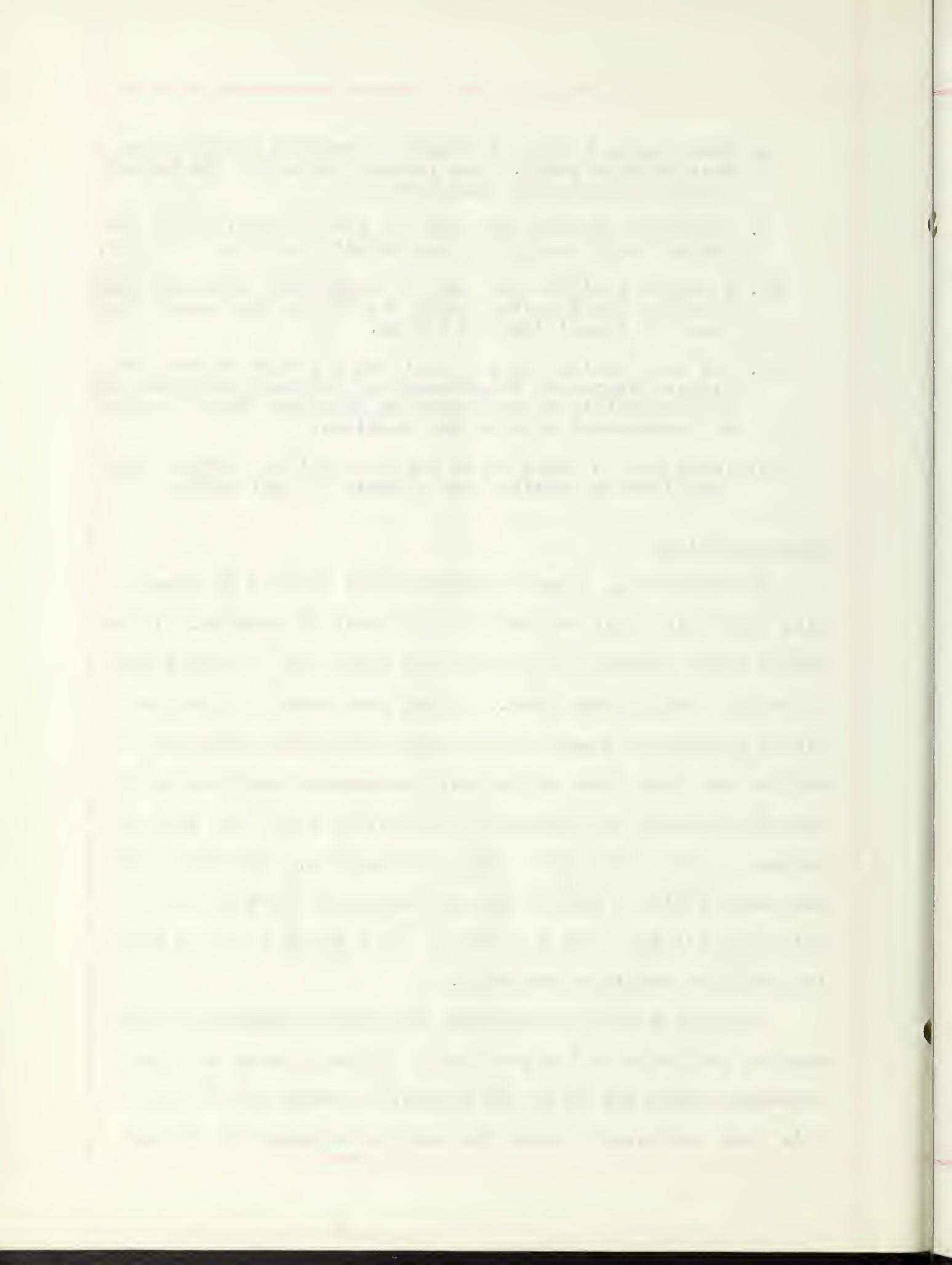


8. There seems to be a correlation between age and success in this study. The younger the child the better are his chances for improvement.
9. A slightly greater per cent of girls benefited by the contact with the Little Wanderers' Home than did boys.
10. A slightly higher per cent of legitimate children benefited by their contact with the Little Wanderers' Home than did illegitimate children.
11. The poor habits and abnormal fears groups showed the highest degree of improvement of original problems and the immorality group seemed to show the lowest degree of improvement of original problems.
12. There did not seem to be any correlation between high Intelligence Quotient and Success in this study.

#### Recommendations

In considering these recommendations it must be borne in mind that this study was made on the basis of records. If the social worker neglected to record an interview, it would look as though nothing were done. It may have been that in the Little Wanderers' Home in cases where the author has said that nothing was done about conference recommendations, because of parents' refusal to cooperate, discussions were held with the parents of the child which were not recorded. There may have been some definite reasons why nothing could have been done which did not get into the record. This would serve to show the need for complete recording.

Also, it must be remembered that the recommendations are made on the basis of the year 1935. Actually some of these recommendations may be in the process of being carried out at this time and actually with the rapid advancement in social



work thinking and gradual change in agency policies the picture of the 1940 cases may be entirely different from that of the 1935 cases. Only a series of similar studies of this kind would begin to show conclusive results.

Considering the high degree of success when the Little Wanderers' Home recommendations were carried out and the relatively high percentage of recommendations which were not carried out, it seems to the author that a concerted effort should be made either to make recommendations which will meet with the approval of cooperating persons or to do more to gain the co-operation of people on whose decision rests the carrying out of recommendations. As has already been stated, the greatest number of cases ignored recommendations because of the parents' unwillingness to consider the removal of the child from his home. There seem to me to be two ways to get around this problem. First, the social worker could come to the conference prepared to state the mothers' views on removal of the child from his home, or, secondly, whenever there is a recommendation advocating the removal of a child from his home, a second recommendation could be made in case there was an objection to the first one. In some of the cases where the recommendations were not carried out, the child was sent home and nothing was done according to the record. It would seem that cases in which recommendations were not carried out the children should still be considered cases of the Little Wanderers' Home for a period of time. If the Home does not feel that it can afford the time

and the first time I have seen it. It is a very  
handsome specimen. It is a large tree, about 100 ft.  
high, with a trunk diameter of 12 in. The bark  
is smooth and greyish-white, with some  
irregular longitudinal ridges. The leaves  
are simple, alternate, elliptic-lanceolate,  
about 10 cm. long and 3 cm. wide, with  
a pointed apex and a short petiole. The  
flowers are small, yellowish-green, and  
are produced in clusters at the ends of  
the branches. The fruit is a small, round  
drupe, about 1 cm. in diameter, with a  
thin skin and a soft pulp. The taste  
is sweet and slightly tart. The wood  
is hard and durable, and is used  
for making furniture and other articles.  
The bark is used as a medicine  
and the leaves are used as a food.  
The tree is found in the forests  
of the Andes, from Ecuador to Chile,  
at elevations of 3,000 to 5,000 m.  
It is also found in the forests  
of the Amazon basin, in Brazil,  
Colombia, and Peru. It is a  
common tree in the forests  
of the Andes, and is often  
seen growing on the slopes  
of the mountains. It is a  
very attractive tree, and is  
often planted in gardens  
and parks. It is a  
good tree for timber  
and for its fruit and  
leaves.

nor expense to supervise a child in his own home whose parents will not comply with recommendations for removal of the child from the home, it seems that a referral could be made to a family welfare society or child guidance clinic, giving this agency the benefit of the diagnostic study. Perhaps social service in the home would improve if not remedy conditions or perhaps after a year or two of supervision the family could be made to see the value of the removal of the child from the home at this time. The value of this plan can be seen in the last two cases quoted in the previous chapter. Renewed contact with the hospital would certainly have been helpful in both cases.

Then too, perhaps it might be possible to have those cases where the recommendations were not carried out considered in conference again after a month or at least discussed jointly with the superintendent, the psychiatrist, and the social worker. Perhaps in the first case some arrangements could be made for the child to have social service visitations in addition to metabolism tests and other methods of medical treatment in an outpatient clinic of a hospital. Perhaps in the second case school placement might have been successful where foster home placement was not.

The second point on the carrying out of recommendations which Mr. Jones, the superintendent, has often made is the importance of a representative of the referring agency being present at the conference. In this way parents and agency

and the first time I have seen it. It is a very large tree, and has a very large trunk. It is about 100 feet high, and has a diameter of about 10 feet. The bark is smooth and grey, and the leaves are large and green. The flowers are small and yellow, and the fruit is a large, round, red berry. The tree is found in the forest, and is a common sight in the area. It is a very beautiful tree, and is a great addition to the forest.

objections to plans suggested may be brought out and those not feasible may be discarded.

Perhaps a periodic follow-up study by a well-trained social worker with the object of discovering these problems and suggesting readmission to the Home to referring agencies might accomplish this purpose. A follow-up study would certainly help cases where recommendations were not carried out and nothing was done. Another important purpose served by a follow-up study is the evaluation of the agencies' work so that mistakes can be recognized and working plans can be continued and improved. This study shows, for instance, the need for thinking about conference recommendations and for making a plan which would facilitate more recommendations being carried out. It shows the value of those recommendations which have been made in the high correlation between success and the carrying out of recommendations.

In conclusion, three major recommendations seem to grow out of this study:

1. A plan is needed to lessen the number of recommendations made which do not prove satisfactory to parents of children studied, especially if the unsuitability of the recommendation is due to lack of knowledge by the conference of parental attitudes toward placement.
  - a. Either the social worker should ask the parent how he would feel about foster home and institutional placement before conference,
  - b. Or an alternative recommendation should be made when placement away from home is decided upon.
  - c. Social workers of referring agencies should be impressed with the importance of attending conference and stating their views.



2. An arrangement should be made so that the case is not dropped immediately by the Little Wanderers' Home when parents refuse to comply with recommendations.
  - a. Either there should be provision for reconsideration of these cases in conference.
  - b. Or, provisions are made for social service visitation on those cases until it is definitely decided that nothing can be done.
  - c. Or, referral is made to a family society or other social agency which will actively follow the case, keeping in mind the Little Wanderers' Home diagnostic help and recommendations.
3. There is a need for a periodic follow-up study in this agency to aid in the evaluation of work done and techniques used and also to help children discharged from the Little Wanderers' Home with minor problems which might, if not discovered, grow into major ones.
  - a. Perhaps a study of recommendations most often successful with the idea of discovering what type of recommendation is best suited to a particular kind of case would be helpful.
  - b. A follow-up study might help to call attention to minor difficulties in children which might if not corrected lead to major ones.
  - c. Or a periodic follow-up study could be made with the object that, where trouble occurs recommendations that the case be reconsidered be made to the referring agency. (Perhaps the psychiatrist, knowing the case, could in some instances give advice by mail to agencies whose cases were known to her.)



## APPENDIX I

Schedule for Gathering Material on 1935 Little  
Wanderers' Home Conference Cases

- |     | Place   | No. of chn.             |   |
|-----|---|-------------------------|---|
| 1.  | Name      Age   | in family               | in family      Nationality      Religion              |
| 2.  | Name and Address of Parents   |                         |   |
| 3.  | Name and Address of Referring Agency  |                         |   |
| 4.  | Problem as referred   |                         |   |
| 5.  | Social situation (broken home, stepparents, immorality, drunken parents, poverty, etc.) |                         |   |
| 6.  | Physical condition  | good<br>fair<br>poor    |   |
| 7.  | Intelligence Quotient (Stanford-Binet)  |                         |   |
| 8.  | House report (as written in conference notes)   |                         |   |
| 9.  | Psychological report (as written in conference notes)                                   |                         |   |
| 10. | Conference recommendations (as written in conference notes)                             |                         |   |
| 11. | Recommendations<br>carried out?   | (Yes<br>(No<br>(In part | 12. Original<br>problem<br>(Improved<br>(Not improved |
| 13. | How recommendations were carried out or reasons why they were not carried out.          |                         |   |
| 14. | Adjustment at home, at school, and in the community (as stated in follow-up letters):   |                         |   |
|     |   | Good<br>Fair<br>Poor    |   |



## APPENDIX II

## FOLLOW-UP LETTER

December 31, 1940

Mr. John Jones  
Vermont Children's Aid Association  
Burlington, Vermont

Dear Mr. Jones:

We are interested in making a follow-up study of children whom we have known here at the New England Home for Little Wanderers. Among them is Mary Smith who was discharged to your care in 1935.

We shall be very grateful if you will help us in our study by answering the questions on the enclosed sheet.

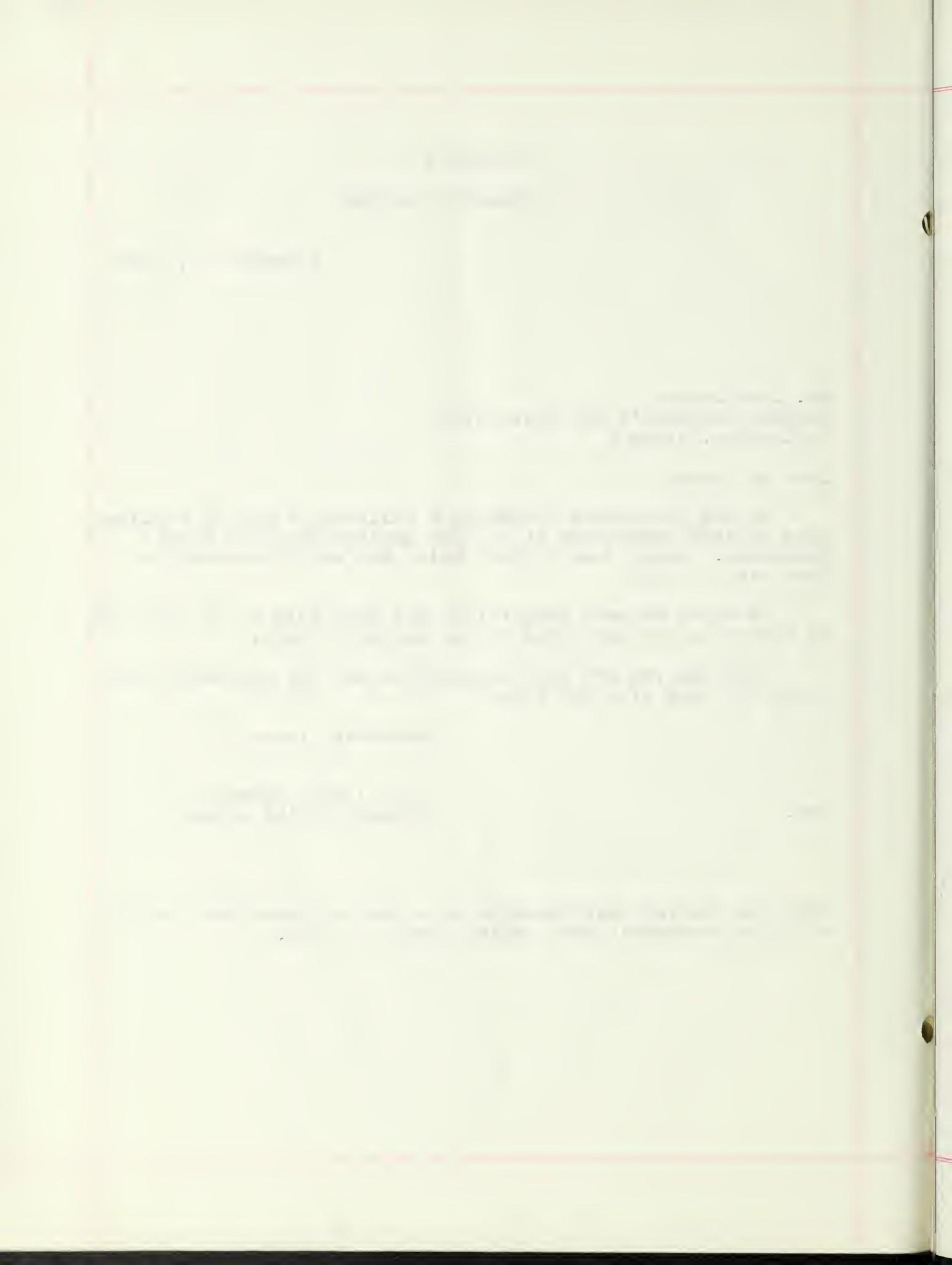
Thanking you for your cooperation and for whatever information you may give us, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) Mary Johnson  
Student Social Worker

Enc.

(This letter and questionnaire is a copy of those sent out by a Little wanderers' Home social worker in 1938.)



Re: Mary Smith born 10/20/30      Parents: John and Mary

1. Were the recommendations of the Little Wanderers' Home conference followed?

If followed, with what results?

If not, why?

If not, what was done?

2. Where is the child now and what is his present adjustment at home, at school, and in the community with special reference to the problem for which he was referred to the Little Wanderers' Home?

By adjustment is meant general sense of well-being, ability to get along with others, and conformity with laws and mores.  
(This letter was sent to referring agencies who have copies of the conference notes containing conference recommendations.)

and the other side of the body. The skin is smooth, soft, and

the hair is black and short. The tail is long and bushy, with a dark tip.

Length 100 mm.

1900. 2

Small mouse-like animal, 100 mm. long, with a long tail, 40 mm. long, which is bushy at the tip. The body is slender, with a pointed nose and small ears.

The fur is dark brown, with a lighter patch on the chest. The tail is dark brown, with a light patch near the tip.

The animal is found in the forests of Central America, particularly in Costa Rica and Panama.

The diet consists of insects, small mammals, and birds. It is a nocturnal animal, and is often seen at night.

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### APPENDIX III

#### DEFINITION OF TERMS USED

Foreign born - born outside of the United States.

Behavior Problem - a child who, because of his inability to get along with people, his unhappiness, or his nonconformity to rules and regulations, has been brought to the attention of a social agency.

Truancy or running away - the absence from school for three or more times without a legitimate excuse or the staying away from home overnight.

Unmanageability - stubbornness, defiance, hyperactivity, disobedience, or nonconformity to regulations.

Immorality of child - staying out all night with a member of the opposite sex, sex play, or sex relations.

Stealing and Lying - taking small change and also larger offenses. Habitual lying for the purpose of escaping from unpleasant experiences.

Poor habits - eneurisis, soiling, masturbation, nailbiting, temper tantrums, or excessive crying.

Abnormal fears - any unusual fear in a child such as night terrors, unusual fear of men, unusual fear of people, etc.

Dependency and Neglect - cases where the primary reason for referral was future placement of the child.

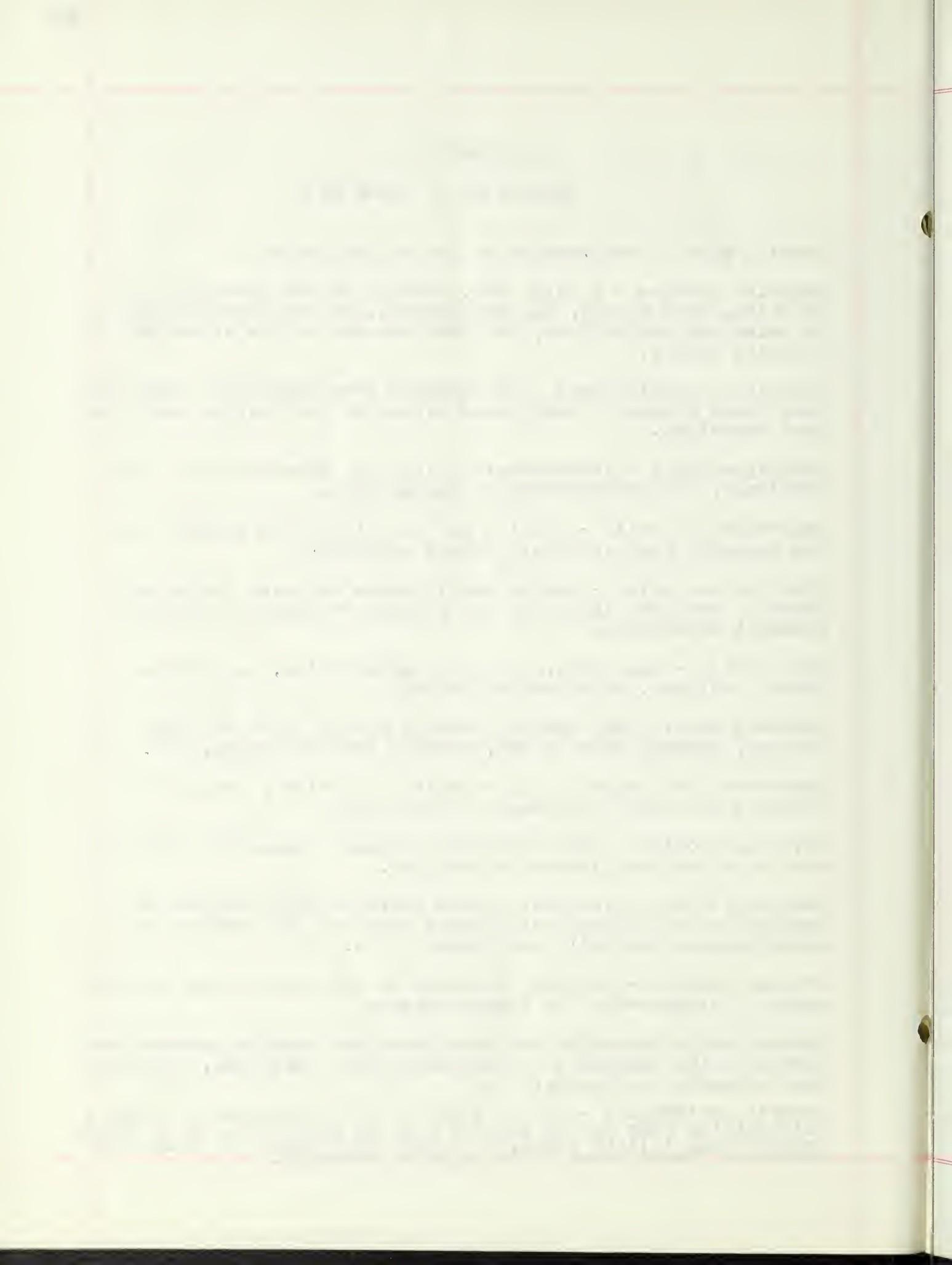
Physical problem - cases where the primary reason for referral was for a serious disease or handicap.

Temporary care - cases which were admitted with the idea of keeping the child only for a short time for such reasons as convalescence, mother's confinement, etc.

Drunken parents - habitual drinking on the part of one or both parents, stepparents, or foster parents.

Broken Home - one which has been dissolved because parents have separated for reasons of death separation, desertion, divorce, imprisonment, or illness.

Immoral environment - one in which a child witnesses a mother entertaining many men callers of dubious reputation, or a father entertaining illicit women, or a home environment in which the mother or father assault the children sexually.



Stepparents - one actual parent and one stepparent or two step-parents being responsible for the care of the child.

Incompatability - the presence of continual and open fighting and disagreement between parents, stepparents, or foster parents.

Extreme nervousness - nervousness to the point of causing one member of the family to yell constantly at the child or neurosis.

Psychosis - a diagnosis of psychosis given by a mental hospital.

Open Rejection - the open preference of the parent for the sibling of the Little Wanderers' Home child or the parent actually telling the child in anger of his dislike for the child.

Physical defect or long illness of parent - some noticeable physical defect, such as deafness, crippling, or loss of an arm, or an illness which would necessitate the parent being incapacitated for over a year.

Physical defect, accident, or long illness of child - same as above. Accident means an accident of a nature serious enough to frighten the child.

Poverty and many children - a relief income and eight children or more in the family.

Differing cultural standards - standards entirely different from the culture of the United States - primitive culture, oriental culture, etc.

Poor discipline - very lax or extremely rigid control.

Institutionalized at an early age - under the age of four.

Nothing of note - those cases in which the child's environment seems to be fairly healthy from a psychological standpoint and containing none of the above-mentioned headings.

Improvement of Original Problem - The problem for which the child has been referred has entirely disappeared or a noticeable advance has been made towards his overcoming the problem.

Age - the age of the child at the time he was considered in conference.

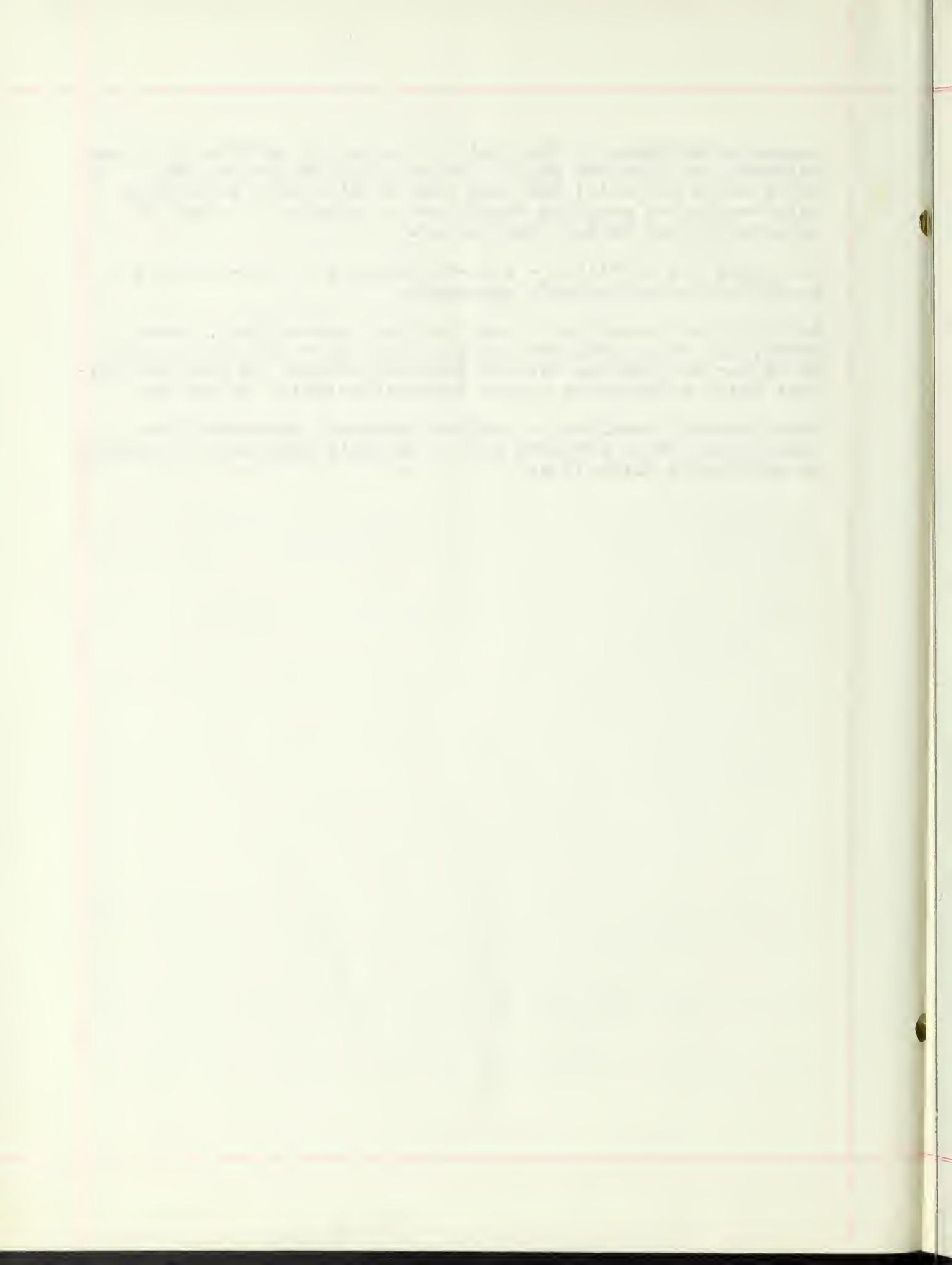


Number of children in the family - number of children or step-children in which the child live who did not die at birth. In cases where the child has been adopted at a very early age, children in the adoptive family are considered in place of children in the child's own family.

Good physical condition - well-nourished and well-developed according to the doctor's statement.

Fair physical condition - poor posture, underweight, knock-knees, and other symptoms showing that the child is not quite up to par but that he has not definite disease or physical ailment which would cause him to restrict activity in any way.

Poor physical condition - cardiac patients, orthopedic patients, and other patients with a definite diagnosis or disease or orthopedic disability.



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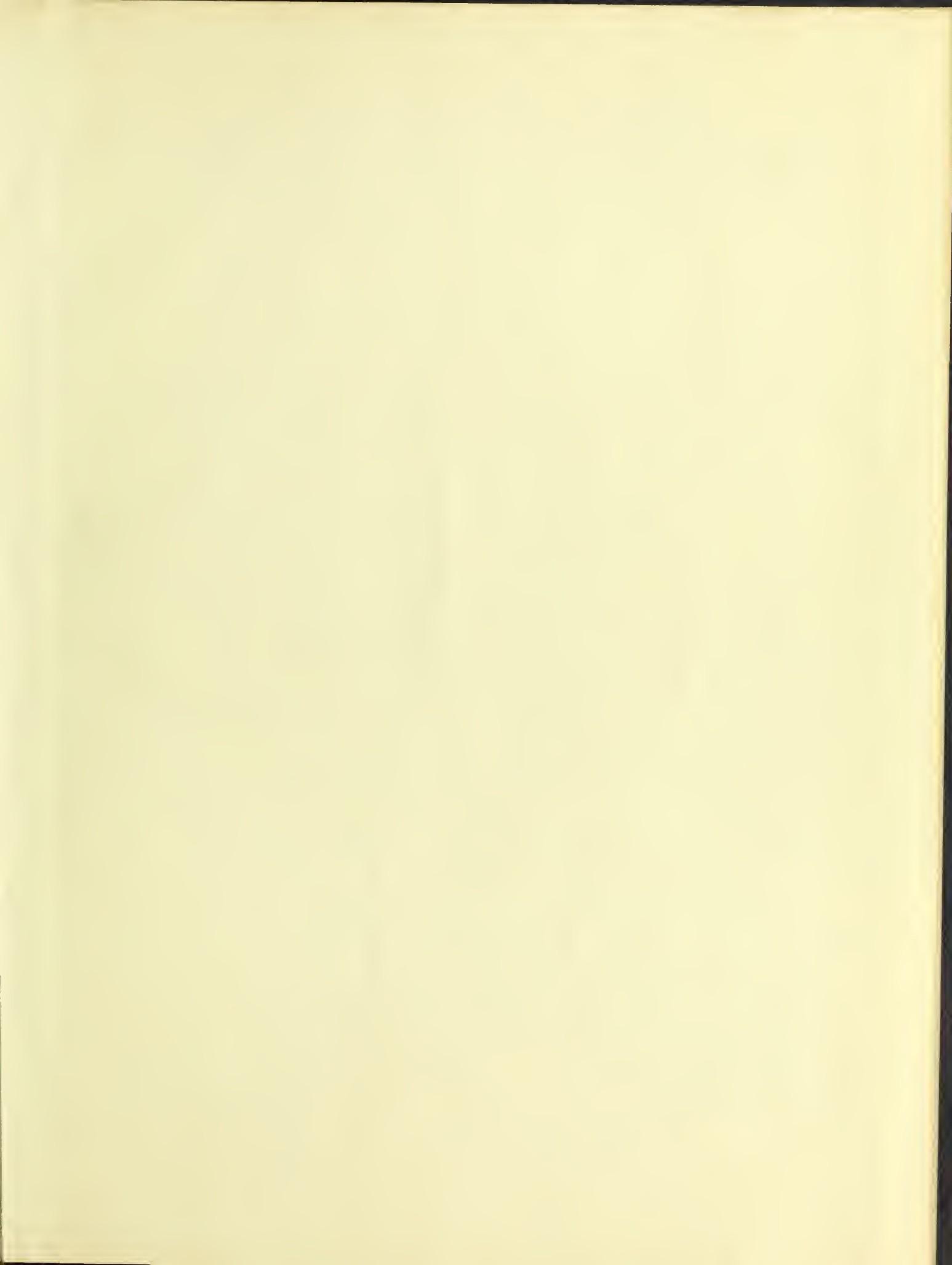
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